PURINOCEPTORS: ARE THERE FAMILIES OF P2X
AND P2Y PURINOCEPTORS?

MARIA P. ABBRACCHIO* and GEOFFREY BURNSTOCK†

*Institute of Pharmacological Sciences, University of Milan, Via Balzaretti 9,
20133 Milan, Italy
†Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, University College London,
Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, U.K.

Abstract—There has been an exponential growth in interest in purinoceptors since the potent effects of purines were first reported in 1929 and purinoceptors defined in 1978. A distinction between P_1 (adenosine) and P_2 (ATP/ADP) purinoceptors was recognized at that time and later, A_1 and A_2, as well as P_{2X} and P_{2Y} subclasses of P_1 and P_2 purinoceptors were also defined. However, in recent years, many new subclasses have been claimed, particularly for the receptors to nucleotides, including P_{2T}, P_{2Z}, P_{2U} and P_{2D}, and there is some confusion now about how to incorporate additional discoveries concerning the responses of different tissues to purines. The studies beginning to appear defining the molecular structure of P_2-purinoceptor subtypes are clearly going to be important in resolving this problem, as well as the introduction of new compounds that can discriminate pharmacologically between subtypes. Thus, in this review, on the basis of this new data and after a detailed analysis of the literature, we propose that:

(1) P2X(ligand-gated) and P2Y(G-protein-coupled) purinoceptor families are established;
(2) four subclasses of P2X-purinoceptor can be identified ($P2X_1-P2X_4$) to date;
(3) the variously named P_2-purinoceptors that are G-protein-coupled should be incorporated into numbered subclasses of the P2Y family. Thus:

$P2Y_1$ represents the recently cloned P2Y receptor (clone 803) from chick brain;
$P2Y_2$ represents the recently cloned P_{2U} (or P_{2N}) receptor from neuroblastoma, human epithelial and rat heart cells;
$P2Y_3$ represents the recently cloned P2Y receptor (clone 103) from chick brain that resembles the former P_{2Y} receptor;
$P2Y_4-P2Y_6$ represent subclasses based on agonist potencies of newly synthesised analogues;
$P2Y_7$ represents the former P_{2T} receptor for dinucleotides.

This new framework for P2 purinoceptors would be fully consistent with what is emerging for the receptors to other major transmitters, such as acetylcholine, γ-aminobutyric acid, glutamate and serotonin, where two main receptor families have been recognised, one mediating fast receptor responses directly linked to an ion channel, the other mediating slower responses through G-proteins. We fully expect discussion on the numbering of the different receptor subtypes within the P2X and P2Y families, but believe that this new way of defining receptors for nucleotides, based on agonist potency order, transduction mechanisms and molecular structure, will give a more ordered and logical approach to accommodating new findings. Moreover, based on the extensive literature analysis that led to this proposal, we suggest that the development of selective antagonists for the different P2-purinoceptor subtypes is now highly desirable, particularly for therapeutic purposes.

Keywords—ATP, P2 purinoceptors, P2X and P2Y, ligand-gated channels, G-protein-linked receptors.

CONTENTS

1. EARLY HISTORY OF RECEPTORS TO NUCLEOSIDES AND NUCLEOTIDES

1.1. P_1 and P_2 Purinoceptors

The potent extracellular actions of purine nucleosides and nucleotides, namely adenosine and ATP, were first recognised by Drury and Szent-Gyorgyi (1929) in a seminal paper reporting the activities of adenine compounds on the mammalian heart. Following this report, there was considerable activity within the field, with particular emphasis on the actions of adenosine and ATP on the cardiovascular system (Gillespie, 1933; Green and Stoner, 1950).

The potent vasodilator actions of adenyl compounds led Holton and Holton (1954) to suggest that ATP might represent the vasodilatory substance that was released upon antidromic stimulation of sensory nerves supplying the rabbit ear artery, a hypothesis that was later demonstrated following stimulation of the great auricular nerve (Holton, 1959). The sensitivity of the coronary vasculature to these same compounds prompted Berne (1963) to propose that adenosine was the physiological mediator of the coronary vasodilation associated with myocardial hypoxia, which further supported the role of ATP and adenosine in physiological regulatory processes.

In the same period (early 1960s), a component that was neither adrenergic nor cholinergic was recognised in the autonomic nervous system. This component was strongly represented in the gastrointestinal tract and later identified in a variety of organs, including lung, bladder, seminal vesicles, esophagus, uterus, eye, trachea and part of the cardiovascular system. Using the criteria summarised by Eccles (1964) for the acceptance of putative neurotransmitters, in the early 1970s, Burnstock proposed that the principal active substance released from at least some of these nerves was ATP and, as a consequence, these nonadrenergic, noncholinergic nerves were tentatively termed 'purinergic' (Burnstock et al., 1970; Burnstock, 1972).

In the subsequent years, the purinergic theory was strengthened by a great body of experimental evidence supporting the role of ATP as a transmitter or co-transmitter with noradrenaline.

acetylcholine and other substances (Burnstock, 1976, 1990) and by the identification of specific extracellular receptors mediating the variety of physiological effects induced by purines.

Based largely on an analysis of the voluminous literature about the actions of purines on a wide number of tissues, in 1978, in a seminal review, Burnstock proposed a basis for distinguishing two types of purinergic receptors, terming P_1 and P_2 the purinoceptors preferentially activated by adenosine and ATP, respectively. The original classification into P_1 and P_2 purinoceptors was based on four criteria: (1) the relative potencies of ATP, ADP, AMP and adenosine; (2) the selective actions of antagonists, particularly methylxanthines, which competitively antagonise adenosine, but not ATP actions; (3) the modulation of adenylate cyclase with resultant changes in intracellular cAMP levels by adenosine, but not ATP; and (4) the induction of prostaglandin synthesis by ATP, but not by adenosine. Since the time of this proposal, many experiments have been carried out that support and extend the P_1/P_2 classification (Williams, 1987; Burnstock, 1991), which is now well-established and largely used in the literature and has been adopted by the IUPHAR Subcommittee for Purinoceptor Subclassification (Abbracchio et al., 1993; Fredholm et al., 1994).

In general, the prejunctional purinoceptors that modulate release of noradrenaline from postganglionic sympathetic nerves are P_1. Westfall et al. (1990) have proposed the existence of a third purinoceptor subtype on some sympathetic nerve terminals tentatively named P_3 and claimed to recognise the structure of both nucleosides and nucleotides; however, this proposal has not received wide acceptance as yet.

1.2. Subclasses of the Adenosine/P_1 Purinoceptor

Following Burnstock's proposal, subsequent work led to the demonstration of both adenosine/P_1 and ATP/P_2 purinoceptor subtypes.

Parallel work by Londos et al. (1980) and Hamprecht's group (van Calker et al., 1979) resulted in the identification of two subclasses of adenosine receptors, which were originally defined on the basis of whether their activation inhibited or stimulated adenylate cyclase activity. Londos et al. termed these receptors R_i and R_a, based on the need of an intact ribose ring in the purine, with the subscripts 'i' and 'a' referring to inhibition and activation of cAMP formation, respectively, whereas these same two receptors were named A_1 and A_2 by van Calker et al., a nomenclature that found preference in the subsequent literature (Abbracchio et al., 1993).

More recently, A_1 and A_2 receptor subtypes have been identified by cloning (Zhou et al., 1992) and binding studies (Cornfield et al., 1992), respectively. A detailed analysis of experimental evidence supporting the subclassification of the P_1 purinoceptor and of the pathophysiological roles of the different receptor subtypes is not within the aims of the present review, and the reader is referred to excellent reviews recently published in this field (Jacobson et al., 1992; Linden et al., 1994).

1.3. Subclasses of the ATP/P_2 Purinoceptor

Burnstock and Kennedy (1985) provided evidence for a subclassification of the P_2 receptor into the P_{2X} and P_{2Y} subtypes. In this first in-depth review of the functional effects of various ATP analogues in a number of different biological systems, they discriminated between two major classes of receptor-mediated responses on the basis of a different response profile to ATP analogs and selective antagonism. Thus, for P_{2X} purinoceptors, ATP analogs may be listed in order of potency as follows: $\alpha\beta meATP \geq \beta\gamma meATP > ATP \geq 2meSATP = ADP$; 3-O-3[N-(4-azido-2-nitrophenyl)amino] propionyl ATP (ANAPP3) was claimed to behave as a selective antagonist, whereas prolonged exposure to $\alpha\beta$-methylene ATP ($\alpha\beta meATP$) selectively desensitises this receptor (Kasakov and Burnstock, 1983). For P_{2Y}-purinoceptors: 2meSATP > ATP $\gg \alpha\beta meATP = \beta\gamma meATP$; reactive blue 2, an anthraquinone sulfonic acid derivative, has been claimed to be a selective antagonist, at least over a limited concentration range (Kerr and Krantis, 1979; Manzini et al., 1986; Houston et al., 1987).

Studies of the pharmacological actions of isopolar phosphonate analogues of ATP in guinea-pig

taenia coli and bladder have supported the P_{2x}/P_{2y} subclassification of P_2 purinoceptors in smooth muscle and have also shown that βγ-methylene ATP (βγmeATP) and its analogues behave as selective P_{2x} agonists (Cusack et al., 1987), while adenosine 5'-O-(2-thiodiphosphate) (ADPβS) is a specific agonist at P_{2y}-purinoceptors (Hourani et al., 1988). More recently, the trypanoside suramin has been shown to be a specific antagonist for P_2-purinoceptors, although not selective for the P_{2x}- and P_{2y}-subclasses (Hoyle et al., 1990), whereas the new compound pyridoxalphosphate-6-azophenyl-2',4'-disulfonic acid (PPADS) synthesised by Lambrecht's group appears to represent a selective P_{2x} antagonist (Lambrecht et al., 1992; Ziganshin et al., 1993, 1994b).

After Burnstock and Kennedy's proposal, in 1986, Gordon further delineated ATP effects in a variety of tissues (Gordon, 1986) and defined two additional P_2 purinoceptor subtypes on platelets and mast cells (and lymphocytes) that did not seem to fit the P_{2x}/P_{2y} subclassification and were tentatively termed P_{2t} and P_{2z} purinoceptors, respectively. The platelet receptor is unique, being activated by ADP and blocked by ATP, whereas the mast cell and macrophage ATP receptor seems to be preferentially activated by the tetrabasic form of ATP, ATP^{4-}, and irreversibly inhibited by oxidised ATP (Murgia et al., 1993). Doubts have been raised about the actual 'receptor' nature of the P_{2z} purinoceptor subtype, since it is represented by the opening of a fairly nonselective membrane pore. Some of the characteristics of the different P_2 purinoceptor subtypes are summarised in Table 1.

From studies performed after Burnstock and Kennedy's proposal, it was evident that the P_{2x} and P_{2y} purinoceptors could also be differentiated on the basis of their transduction mechanisms. The P_{2x} purinoceptor subtype involves an intrinsic ion channel permeable to Na^+, K^+ and Ca^{2+} (Benham and Tsien, 1987; Bean, 1992), whereas the P_{2y} purinoceptor subtype is a G-protein coupled receptor that modulates membrane phosphoinositide metabolism and, hence, inositol-1,4,5-trisphosphate (IP3) and diacyl-glycerol (DAG) generation (Cusack, 1993), although additional transduction mechanisms also seem to be utilised in some tissues, such as modulation of cAMP generation (Okajima et al., 1989; Yamada et al., 1992) and arachidonic acid mobilisation (Bruner and Murphy, 1990).

There is now good evidence in favour of the existence of purinoceptors that respond to the pyrimidine derivative UTP, as well as to ATP and adenosine 5'-O-(3-thiotriphosphate) (ATPγS) (but not to 2meSATP or αβmeATP, Table 1). As for the P_{2y} and P_{2t} subtypes, this receptor is linked to G-protein activation (Table 1) and has been alternatively termed 'P_{2u}' or 'nucleotide' or 'pyrimidine' receptor. At this receptor subtype, UTP is generally either equipotent or more potent than ATP, suggesting that the 'pyrimidine'/'nucleotide' receptor might indeed represent a further subclass of the P_2 purinoceptor. (see also Section 2).

Besides these P_2 purinoceptor subtypes, there also appear to be receptors for adenine dinucleotide polyphosphates (Ap4A, Ap5A and Ap6A), leading to the proposal of an additional receptor subtype, the 'P_{2D}' purinoceptor (Hilderman 1991; Castro et al., 1992; Table 1). The physiological functions of the diadenosine polyphosphate (ApxA) compounds are unclear at present, although possible roles as neurotransmitters, co-transmitters or trophic factors have been suggested (Hoyle, 1990).

The use of different terminologies to define UTP-sensitive responses and the apparent random walk through the alphabet in the naming of P_{2t}, P_{2z}, P_{2u} and P_{2D} has generated some concern in the IUPHAR Subcommittee for Purinoceptor Subclassification (Abbracchio et al., 1993; Fredholm et al., 1994), and has led to confusion and inconsistency, especially when trying to incorporate into current nomenclature schemes additional discoveries about the biological responses to purines and pyrimidines.

This confusion has prompted us to perform a detailed analysis of the available literature in order to verify whether a new way of defining the different receptor subtypes for nucleotides could be proposed. Knowledge of receptor molecular structure is critical and strategic in defining neurotransmitter receptor subtypes. Since molecular biology data on P_2 purinoceptors are now becoming available, we would like to summarise initially such available information in order to try to identify some useful criteria in P_2 purinoceptor subclassification. Further, we report here the results of studies recently performed with a number of modified ATP analogues that give further hints about possible P2X- and P2Y-purinoceptor subclasses.

Table 1. *P2 Purinoceptor: Characteristics and Current Subclassification*

Receptor	P_{2X}	P_{2Y}	P_{2u} (P_{2n})	P_{2t}	P_{2z}	P_{2D}
Type	Intrinsic ion channel (Na^+, K^+, Ca^{2+})	G-protein-coupled (IP3/Ca^{2+}/DAG)	G-protein-coupled (IP3/Ca^{2+}/DAG)	G-protein-coupled (IP3/Ca^{2+}/DAG/cAMP)	Nonselective pore	G-protein-coupled (IP3/Ca^{2+}/DAG)
Agonist profile	αβmeATP ≥ βyme ATP > ATP ≥ 2meSATP ≈ ADP	2meSATP ≫ ATP ≫ αβmeATP	UTP ≥ ATP ≫ 2meSATP	2-ADP	ATP^{4-}	ApxA
Antagonist	Desensitisation by αβmeATP; blocked by suramin, by ANAPP3 and PPADS	Blocked by suramin and by reactive blue 2		ATP	Oxidised ATP	

A

a 10µM ATP   30µM   100µM   300µM

b 10µM 2-MeS-ATP

c 30µM ATP   30µM ADP   10µM UTP   100µM α,β-Me-ATP

20s   2min

B

I_{ATP} (nA)

400
300
200
100

0
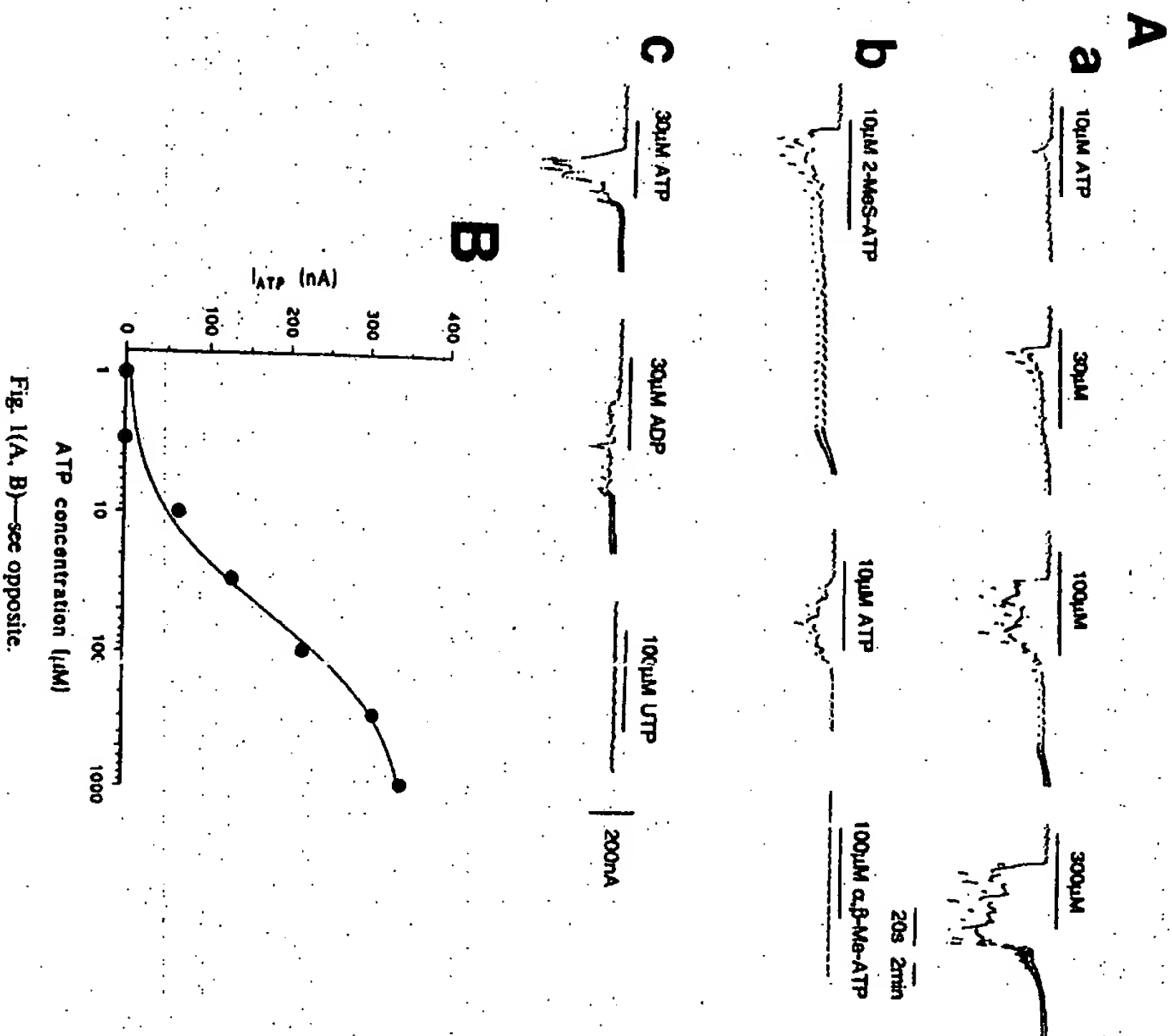0.1 1 10 100 1000

ATP concentration (µM)

Fig. 1(A, B)—see opposite.

2. MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF ATP PURINOCEPTORS

Acquired ATP-generated currents in *Xenopus* oocytes injected with mRNA from embryonic guinea-pig brain were first demonstrated by Fournier *et al.* (1990), and by Honoré *et al.* (1991), and also following injection of size-fractionated RNA from J774 murine macrophage-like cells by Hickman *et al.* (1993). ATPγS-induced acceleration of intracellular calcium efflux was shown in *Xenopus* oocyte injected with mRNA from HL60 promyelocytic leukaemia cells, a response that is believed to be mediated by a G-protein-linked P_2 purinoceptor (Murphy and Tiffany, 1990). More recently, Russell *et al.* (1993) reported ATP-generated currents in *Xenopus* oocytes injected with poly-(A)⁺ mRNA from guinea-pig vas deferens. Such ATP-generated currents involved the release of intracellular Ca^{2+} and also depended upon Ca^{2+} influx.

The Barnard and Burnstock groups have recently cloned a P_{2Y}-like purinoceptor using a homology screening strategy. A previously isolated guinea-pig partial cDNA,* the sequence homologue

*Webb, T. E., Bateson, A. N. and Barnard, E. A. (1991) A polymerase chain reaction based strategy for the isolation of DNA sequences that encode G-protein-coupled receptors. In: *17th EMBO Annual Symposium, Molecular Mechanisms of Signal Transduction*, Heidelberg, Germany, 16–19 September, 1991, Abstract No. 208.
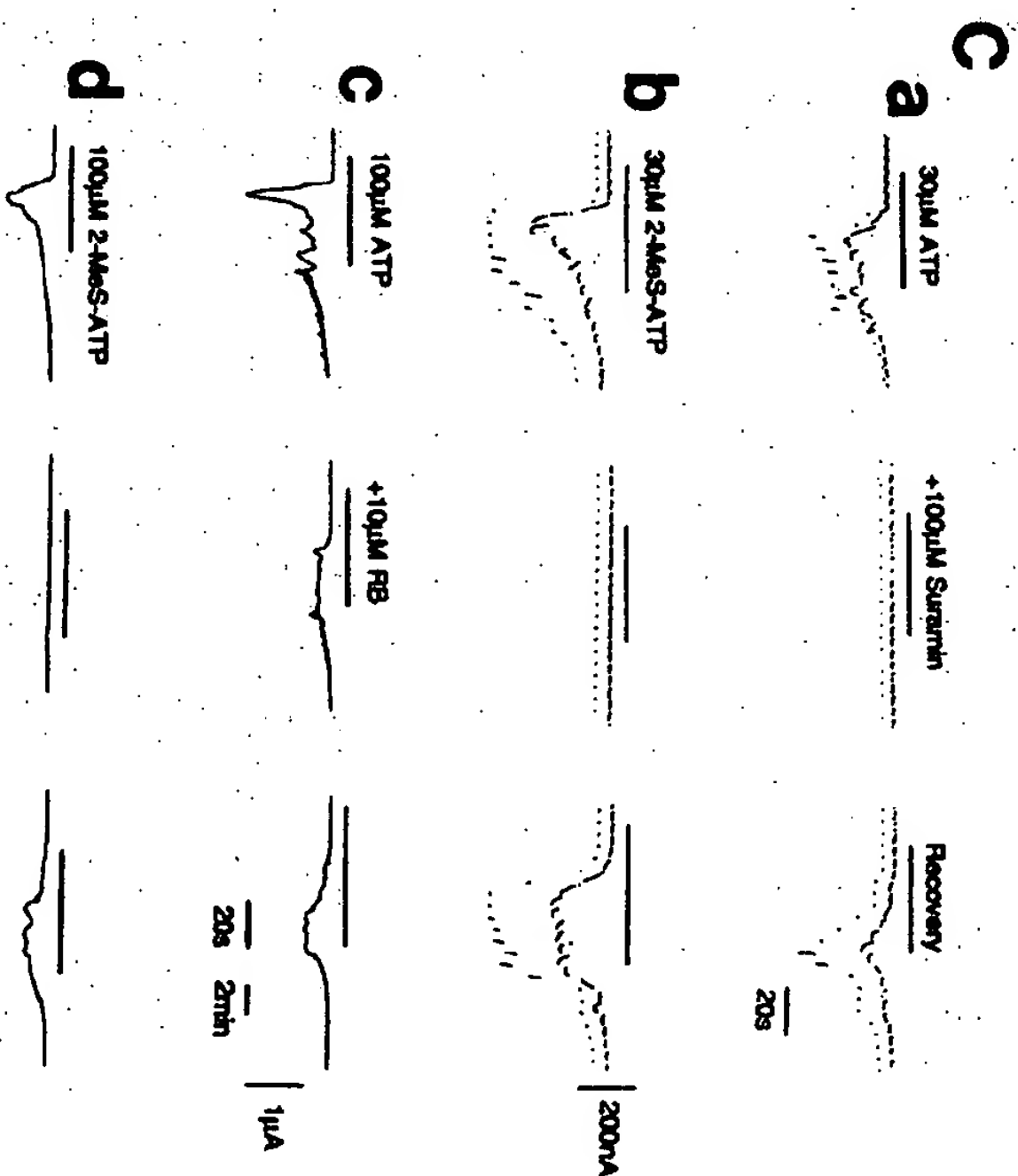
C

a 30µM 2-MeS-ATP   +100µM Suramin   Recovery

20s

b 30µM 2-MeS-ATP   +10µM RB

c 100µM ATP

d 100µM 2-MeS-ATP

20s   2min

200nA   1µA

Fig. 1(C).

Fig. 1. Responses in cRNA-injected *Xenopus* oocytes (at −40 mV). Aa: Dose-dependence of membrane currents evoked by ATP (10–300 µM). The transient downward deflections monitor the input conductance following hyperpolarising voltage steps (−10 mV, applied every 5 sec for 1 sec). Similar results were observed in two other oocytes. Ab,Ac: In two oocytes, the agonist selectivity was assessed using 2meSATP, ATP, ADP, α,βmeATP and UTP. Holding potentials, −40mV. B: ATP concentration-response relationship. The membrane current amplitude (I_{ATP}) was measured using the initial peak inward current induced by each ATP concentration. C: Suramin antagonised the responses to (Ca) ATP and (Cb) 2meSATP. Reactive blue 2 (RB) also inhibited the responses to (Cc) ATP and (Cd) 2meSATP. Bar indicates ligand application. Adapted from Webb *et al.* (1993).

of the canine orphan receptor RDC1 (Libert *et al.*, 1989), was used to screen an embryonic chick whole brain cDNA library under conditions of low stringency (Webb *et al.*, 1993). The cloning strategy included use of two degenerate oligonucleotide primers from transmembrane domains II and VI of G-protein-coupled receptors for polymerase chain reaction amplification of guinea-pig brain first-strand cDNA, subcloning of amplification products and screening of an embryonic chick whole brain cDNA library.

An isolated clone, 803, encoded a 362-amino acid polypeptide displaying the typical topology of a G-protein-coupled receptor (Webb *et al.*, 1993), such as the presence of seven hydrophobic putative transmembrane α-helices; consensus sequences for N-linked glycosylation in the N-terminus extracellular domain; two conserved cysteine residues in the first and second extracellular loops, believed to form disulphide bonds; and several consensus phosphorylation sites in the third cytoplasmic loop and C-terminal intracellular domain (Linden *et al.*, 1991).

Functional expression of this clone in *Xenopus laevis* indicated that the encoded protein is a P_2-purinoceptor. ATP induced a large calcium-activated inward chloride current (Webb *et al.*, 1993; Fig. 1Aa,B). Responses to ATP were dose-dependent with an EC_{50} of 49.5±6 µM (Fig. 1Aa,B). Further analysis of the ligand specificity of this receptor using a range of P_2-purinoceptor agonists led to designation of this clone as a P2Y-like purinoceptor. ATP-like effects were also induced by 2meSATP

and ADP, whereas both UTP and the P$_{2X}$ selective agonists α,βmeATP and β,γmeATP were inactive at concentrations up to 30–100 μM. Therefore, the rank order of potency of these agonists was: 2meSATP ≥ ATP > ADP ≫ α,βmeATP, β,γmeATP, UTP (Fig. 1Ab,Ac). Both suramin and the P$_{2Y}$-selective antagonist reactive blue 2 antagonised the responses to ATP and 2meSATP (Fig. 1C). Based on selective antagonism by reactive blue 2, high potency of ATP, inactivity of UTP and methylene ATP derivatives, and strong structure similarity with G-protein-coupled receptors, the newly cloned receptor was identified as a P$_{2Y}$ subtype rather than a P$_{2X}$ or P$_{2U}$/'nucleotide' purinoceptor subtype. Moreover, the near equipotency of 2meSATP and ATP and greater potency of ATP over ADP suggested that this expressed receptor was a novel subtype of the P2Y purinoceptor family, which was consequently named 'P2Y$_1$'.

The agonist profile typical of this receptor (2meSATP ≥ ATP > ADP) was a starting point for us in analyzing the available literature in our effort to find a new and logical way of defining the different receptor subtypes to ATP (see Section 4.4).

The cloning work by the Barnard and Burnstock groups also led to the isolation of an ADP-sensitive clone (clone 103), which, based on preliminary pharmacological results, might be related to the so-called 'P$_{2T}$' purinoceptor (Barnard et al., 1994).

Lustig et al. (1993) have independently cloned a cDNA from NG 108-15 neuroblastoma cells encoding a metabotropic P$_{2U}$/'nucleotide' purinoceptor by utilising a X. laevis oocyte expression cloning strategy. In Xenopus oocytes injected with poly(A)$^+$ RNA from NG 108-15 cells, ATP or UTP (1 mM) evoked calcium-dependent inward currents. To identify the cDNA encoding the receptor protein responsible for these currents, pools of 2 × 10^5 individual clones from an NG 108-15 cDNA plasmid library were in vitro transcribed and the resultant cRNA was injected into oocytes. The pool that rendered the oocytes responsive to ATP or UTP was subdivided progressively and the procedure was repeated until a single clone, pP2R, was obtained (Lustig et al., 1993).

In oocytes injected with pP2R cRNA transcripts, inward currents were elicited by bath application of ATP, UTP or ATPγS, but not by comparable concentrations of 2meSATP, ADP, β,γmeATP or α,βmeATP. The order of agonist potency was ATP = UTP > ATPγS ≫ 2meSATP, ADP, β,γmeATP, α,βmeATP, which, again, was a starting point for us in analysing the effects reported in the literature for ATP and UTP.

Recently, the ATP/UTP receptor has been cloned from human airway and colonic epithelium (Parr et al., 1994) and from rat heart (Godecke and Schrader, 1994). Similarly to the receptor cloned by Lustig et al., the HP2U clone isolated by Parr et al., when expressed in 1321N1 astrocytoma cells, displayed comparable responses to ATP and UTP, whereas 2meSATP and α,βmeATP had little effect. Activation of this receptor leads to breakdown of phosphoinositides and increase of intracellular Ca^{2+}, an effect that was partially blocked by pertussis toxin.

Both the P2Y$_1$-purinoceptor and the cloned pP2R and HP2U-purinoceptors showed predicted structural features characteristic of most known G-protein-coupled receptors.

Figure 2 shows the deduced protein sequences of cloned P2Y$_1$ and pP2R purinoceptors in comparison with adenosine A$_1$, A$_{2a}$ and A$_3$ receptors. Interestingly, the P2Y$_1$ and pP2R sequences differ markedly from the cloned adenosine receptors. In fact, the pP2R receptor is more similar to receptors for various peptides, such as thrombin (25% identity), platelet-activating factor (25% identity), angiotensin II (22% identity), interleukin 8 (23% identity) and GPRN1, a putative vasoactive intestinal peptide receptor (21% identity) (Lustig et al., 1993). The cloned receptor is substantially less similar (<12% identity) to adenosine and cAMP receptors.

Similarly, the P2Y$_1$ receptor has only a low sequence identity with the adenosine A$_1$ (21%) and the cAMP (17%) receptors, whereas, as reported for the pP2R receptor, higher identities were found with the angiotensin II, thrombin, platelet-activating factor and interleukin 8 receptors (Table 2), suggesting that these two purinoceptors might belong to a completely different subfamily of the G-protein-coupled receptor class.

The tissue distribution of the P2Y$_1$ transcript determined by Northern hybridisation revealed a discrete pattern of expression in the adult chicken. The P2Y$_1$ mRNA was present in brain, spinal cord, gastrointestinal tract, spleen and leg muscle (Webb et al., 1993). Conversely, for the pP2R receptor, Northern blot analysis revealed wide distribution of mRNA in all tested mouse tissues, such as spleen, testes, kidney, liver, lung, heart and brain (Lustig et al., 1993). This distribution is very similar to that reported for the HP2U receptor (Parr et al., 1994). The distribution of the P2Y$_1$ (Webb

A   A1-RECEPTORS
```
                                TM 1                                                    TM 2
hA1   MPPSISAFQAAYIGIEVLIALVSVPGNVLVIWAVKVNQALRDATFCFIVSLAVADVAVGALVIPLAILINIGPQTYFHTC
rA1   MPPYISAFQAAYIGIEVLIALVSVPGNVLVIWAVKVNQALRDATFCFIVSLAVADVAVGALVIPLAILINIGPQTYFHTC
dA1   MPPAISAFQAAYIGIEVLIALVSVPGNVLVIWAVKVNQALRDATFCFIVSLAVADVAVGALVIPLAILINIGPRTYFHTC
bA1   MPPSISAFQAAYIGIEVLIALVSVPGNVLVIWAVKVNQALRDATFCFIVSLAVADVAVGALVIPLAILINIGPRTYFHTC

      A2-RECEPTORS
hA2a  MPIMGSSVYITVELAIAVLAILGNVLVCWAVWLNSNLQNVTNYFVVSLAAADIAVGVLAIPFAITISTGFCAACHGC
dA2a  MSTMGSSVYITVELAIAVLAILGNVLVCWAVWLNSNLQNVTNYFVVSLAAADIAVGVLAIPFAITISTGFCAACHNC
rA2a  MGSSVYITVELAIAVLAILGNVLVCWAVWINSNLQNVTNFFVVSLAAADIAVGVLAIPFAITISTGFCAACHGC

hA2b  MLLETQDALYVALELVIAALSVAGNVLVCAAVGTANTLQTPTNYFLVSLAAADVAGLFAIPFAITISLGFCTDFYGC
rA2b  MQLETQDALYVALELVIAALAVAGNVLVCAAVGASSALQTPTNYFLVSLATADVAGLFAIPFAITISLGFCTDFHSC

      A3-RECEPTORS
rA3   MKANNTTTSALWLQITYVIMEAAIGLCAVVGNMLVIMVVKLNRTLRTTTFYFIVSLALADIAVGVLVIPLAIAVSLEVQMHFYAC

      P2 - RECEPTORS
P2Y1  MTEALISAALNGTQPELLAGGMAAGNATTECSLTKTGFQFYYLPTVYILVFITGFLGNSVAIWMFVFHMRPWSQISVYMFNLALADFLYVLTLPALIFYFNKTDWIFGDVMCK
P2U      MAADLEPWNSTINGTWEGDELGYKCRFNEDFKTVLLPVSYGVVCVLGLCLNVVALYIFLCRLKT-WNASTTYMFHLAVSDSLYAASLPLLVYYYARGDHWPFSTVLCK
               TM 3                                              TM 4                                                        TM 5
hA1   LMVACPVLILTQSSILALLAIAVDRYLRVKIPLRYKMVVTPRRAAVAIAGCWILSFVVGLTPMFGWN.........NLSAVERAWAANGSMGEPVIKCEFEKVISMEYMVYFNFFVWVLPP
rA1   LMVACPVLILTQSSILALLAIAVDRYLRVKIPLRYKTVVTQRRAAVAIAGCWILSLVVGLTPMFGWN.........NLSVVEQDWRANGCVGEPVIKCEFEKVISMEYMVYFNFFVWVLPP
dA1   LMVACPVLILTQSSILALLAIAVDRYLRVKIPLRYKTVVTPRRAAVAIAGCWILSFVVGLTPMFGWN.........NLSAVERDWLANGSVGEPVIECQFEKVISMEYMVYFNFFVWVLPP
bA1   LKVACPVLILTQSSILALLAIAVDRYLRVKIPLRYKTVVTPRRAAVAITGCWILSFVVGLTPLFGWN.........RLGEAQRAWAANGSGGEPVIKCEFEKVISMEYMVYFNFFVWVLPP

hA2a  LFIACFVLVLTQSSIFSLLAIAIDRYIAIRIPLRYNGLVTGTRAKGIIAICWVLSFAIGLTPMLGWN.........NCGQPKEGKNHSQGCGEGQVACLFEDVVPMNYMVYFNFFACVLVP
dA2a  LFFACFVLVLTQSSIFSLLAIAIDRYIAIRIPLRYNGLVTGTRAKGIIAVCWVLSFAIGLTPMLGWN.........NCSQPKEGKRNYSQGCGEGQVACLFEDVVPMNYMVYFNFFAFVLVP
rA2a  IFFACFVLVLTQSSIFSLLAIAIDRYIAIRIPLRYNGLVTGVRAKGIIAICWVLSFAIGLTPMLGWN.........NCSQKDGNSTKT..CGEGRVTCLFEDVVPMNYMVYFNFFAFVLVP

hA2b  LFLACFVLVLTQSSIFSLLAVAVDRYLAICVPLRYKSLVTGTRARGVIAVLWVLAFGIGLTPFLGWNSK..DSATNNCTEPWDGTTNE.SCC..LVKCLFENVVPMSYMVYFNFTGCVLPP
rA2b  LFLACFVLVLTQSSIFSLLAVAVDRYLAIRVPLRYKGLVTGTRARGIIAVLWVLAFGIGLTPFLGWNSK..DRATSNCTEPGDGITNK.SCC..PVKCLFENVVPMSYMVYFNFFGCVLPP

rA3   LFMSCVLLVFTHASIMSLLAIAVDRYLRVKLTVRYRTVTTQRRIWLFLGLCWLVSFLVGLTPMFGWNRKVTLELSQNSS.TLS..............CHFRFVVGLDYMVFFSFITWILIP

P2Y1  .LQRFIFFVNLYGSILFLTCISVHRYTGV...VHPLKSLGRLKKKNAVTVSSLVWALVVAVIAPIFYSGTGVRR..NKT......ITCYDTTADEY....LRSTFVYSNCTTVIMFCIPP
P2U   LVRFLFYTNLYCSILFLTCISVHRCLGVL.RPLHSLRWGRA...RYAARRVAAVVWVLVLACQAPVLYFVTTSVRGTRITCHDTSARELFS
                                                                                        HIVAYSSVMLGLL
```

Fig. 2(A).

B

```
           TM 5                                    TM 6                            TM 7
hA1    LLLMVLIYLEVFYLIRKQLNKKVSA..SSGDPQKYYGKELKIAKSLALILFLFALSWLPLHILNCITLFCPSC..HKPSILTYIAIFLTHGNSAMNPIVIAF
rA1    LLLMVLIYLEVFYLIRKQLNKKVSA..SSGDPQKYYGKELKIAKSLALILFLFALSWLPLHILNCITLFCPTC..QKPSILIYIAIFLTHGNSAMNPIVIAF
dA1    LLLMVLIYLEVFYLIRKQLGKKVSA..SSGDPQKYYGKELKIAKSLALILFLFALSWLPLHILNCITLFCPSC..RKPSILMYIAIFLTHGNSAMNPIVIAF
bA1    LLLMVLIYMEVFYLIRKQLSKKVSA..SSGDPQKYYGKELKIAKSLALILFLFALSWLPLHILNCITLFCPSC..HMPRILIYIAIFLSHGNSAMNPIVIAF

hA2a   LLLMLGVYLRIFLAARRQLKQMESQPLPGERARSTLQKEVHAAKSLAIIVGLFALCWLPLHIINCFTFFCPDSC.HAPLWLMYLAIVLSHTNSVVNPFIYAY
dA2a   LLLMLGVYLRIFLAARRQLKQMESQPLPGERARSTLQKEVHAAKSLAIIVGLFALCWLPLHIINCFTFFCPECS.HAPLWIMYLTIVLSHTNSVVNPFIYAY
rA2a   LLIMLAIYIRIFLAARRQLKQMESQPLPGERTRSTLQKEVHAAKSLAIIVGLFALCWLPLHIINCFTFFCSTCR.HAPPWLMYLAIILSHSNSVVNPFIYAY

hA2b   LLIMLVIYIKIFLVACRQLQRTELM....DHSRTTLQREIHAAKSLAMIVGIFALCWLPVHAVECVTLFQPAQGKNKPKWAMNMAILLSHANSVVNPIVYAY
rA2b   LLIMMVIYIKIFMVACKQLQHMELM....EHSRTTLQREIHAAKSLAMIVGIFALCWLPVHAINCVTLFHPALAKDKPKWMVMGNVAILLSHANSVVNPIVYAY

rA3    LVVMCIITLDIFYIIRNKLSQNLTG...FRETRAFYGREFKTAKSLFLVLFLFALCWLPLSIINFVSYFNV....KIPEIAMCLGILLSHANSDGNPIVYAC

P2Y1   IVILGCYGLIVKALIYKDLDNSP.............LRRKSIYLVIIVLTVFAVSYLPFHVMKTLNLSARL..DFQTPQMCAFNDKVYATIQVTRGLASLHSCVDPILYFLAG
P2U    FAVPFSVILVCYVLMARRLLKPAYGTTGGLPRAKRK.........SVRTIALVLAVFALCFLPFHVTRTLYYSFRSLDLSCHTLNAINMAYKITRPLASANSLDPVLYFLAG

hA1    RIQKFRVTFLKIWNDHFRCQPAPPIDEDLPEERPDD
rA1    RIHKFRVTFLKIWNDHFRCQPKPPIDEDLPEEKAED
dA1    RIQKFRVTFLKIWNDHFRCQPTPPVDEDPPEEAPHD
bA1    RIQKFRVTFLKIWNDHFRCQPAPPIDEDAPAERPDD

hA2a   RIREFRQTFRKIIRSHVLRQQEPFKAAGTSARVLAAHGSDGEQVSLRLNGHPPGVWANGSAPHPERRPNGYALGLVSGGSAQESQGNTGLPDVELLSHELKGVCPEPPGLDDPLAQDGAGVS
dA2a   RIREFRQTFRKIIRSHVLRRREPFKAGGTSARALAAHGSDGEQISLRLNGHPPGVWANGSAPHPERRPNGYTLGLVSGGIAPESHGDMGLPDVELLSHELKGACPESPGLEGPLAQDGAGVS
rA2a   RIREFRQTFRKIIRTHVLRRQEPFQAGGSSAWALAAHSTEGEQVSLRLNGHPLGVWANGSATHSGRRPNGYTLGLGGGGSAQGSPPDVELPTQERQEGQEHPGLRGHLVQARVGAGS
       WSSEPAPS

hA2b   RHRDFRYTFHKIISRYLLCQADVKSGNGQAGVQPALGVGL
rA2b   RHRDFRYSFHRIISTYVLCQTDTKGGSGQAGGQSTFSLSL

rA3    KIKKFKETYFVILRACRLCQTSDSLDSNLEQTTE

P2Y1   DTFRRRLSRATRKSSRRSEPNVQSKSEEMTLNILTEYKQNGDTSL
P2U    QRLVRFARDAKP
```

Fig. 2. Deduced amino acid sequences of cloned purinoceptors. The transmembrane helices (TM-1 to TM-7) are designated on the basis of hydropathy plots. The human A₁ receptor (Salvatore *et al.*, 1992), the rat A₁ receptor (Mahan *et al.*, 1991), the canine A1 receptor (Libert *et al.*, 1991) and the bovine A₁ receptor (Maenhaut *et al.*, 1990) all have 326 amino acids. The human (Salvatore *et al.*, 1992) and canine (Maenhaut *et al.*, 1990) A₂ₐ receptors have 412 and the rat A₂ₐ receptor (Fink *et al.*, 1992) 410 amino acids. The rat (Stehle *et al.*, 1992) and human (Salvatore *et al.*, 1992) A₂ᵦ receptors have 332 amino acids, wheras the rat A₃ receptor (Meyerhof *et al.*, 1991; Zhou *et al.*, 1992) has 319. The P2Y₁ receptor has 362 amino acids (Webb *et al.*, 1993) and the putative P₂U receptor has 373 amino acids (Lustig *et al.*, 1993). Modified from Fredholm *et al.* (1994).

et al., 1993) and the 'P₂ᵤ' (Lustig *et al.*, 1993; Parr *et al.*, 1994) purinoceptors is taken into considerations in terms of P2Y purinoceptor subclassification (Section 4.4).

3. NEW ATP DERIVATIVES AS POSSIBLE TOOLS TO DISCRIMINATE P2 PURINOCEPTOR SUBTYPES

The confusion surrounding the classification of ATP receptors is partly due to a multiplicity of biological effects and inconsistencies in the potency of available agonists and antagonists (Silinsky, 1989; Inoue and Nakazawa, 1992). In this respect, many efforts recently have been aimed at synthesizing novel ATP analogues endowed with high selectivity and potency for the different P2 purinoceptor subtypes.

In collaboration with Burnstock's and Harden's laboratories, Jacobson and coworkers recently have designed ATP derivatives with modified purine, ribose or triphosphate moieties and characterised their activity in a variety of pharmacological assay systems known to possess P2X and P2Y-purinoceptors (Fischer *et al.*, 1993; Burnstock *et al.*, 1994). Pharmacological assays at P2Y purinoceptors included: stimulation of the production of IP3 formation in turkey erythrocytes, relaxation of guinea-pig taenia coli and of rabbit mesenteric artery smooth muscle, and endothelium-dependent relaxation of rabbit aorta. Pharmacological assays at P2X purinoceptors included contraction of the rabbit saphenous artery and contraction of the guinea-pig vas deferens and urinary bladder.

This data is summarised in Table 3, which reports the EC₅₀ or pD2 values (−log EC₅₀) of all the compounds tested in the pharmacological assays. Some analogs displayed selectivity or specificity for either the P2X or P2Y purinoceptor in selective tissues, suggesting heterogeneity within these two purinoceptor families.

Consistent with data showing enhanced potency at P2-purinoceptors of long chain functionalised congeners of 2meSATP (Zimmet *et al.*, 1993), 2-alkylthio derivatives of ATP proved to be the most potent compounds in all the P2Y-purinoceptor assays (Table 3). Indeed, both base modifications, leading to 8-(6-aminohexylamino)ATP and N-oxide ATP, and ribose modifications, leading to 2',3'-isopropylidene-AMP, resulted in potent derivatives that displayed selectivity for endothelial P2Y purinoceptors and were practically inactive in the other P2Y- and P2X-purinoceptor pharmacological assays (Table 3). Conversely, the potent agonist Nᵒ-methyl-ATP and the somewhat less potent agonist 2'-deoxy-ATP were selective for guinea-pig taenia coli P2Y purinoceptors, but were inactive at the vascular P2Y and at the P2X purinoceptors. These results suggest

Table 2. *Percentage Identity of Chick P2Y₁ Purinoceptor with known G-Protein-Coupled Receptors*

Receptor	Species	%identity with P2Y₁
RDC1	Canine	27
Angiotensin II type 1	Human	27
Thrombin	Human	25
Platelet activating factor	Guinea-pig	25
C5a anaphylatoxin	Human	23
Neuromedin K	Rat	23
Interleukin 8	Human	22
Bradykinin B2	Rat	22
Neurotensin	Rat	22
Endothelin B	Human	21
Gastrin-releasing peptide	Mouse	21
Adenosine A₁	Canine	21
Substance P	Human	21
Neurokinin 2	Human	20
Adenosine A₃	Canine	18
cAMP	Slime mold	17

The most related sequences are shown, along with adenosine and cAMP receptor. RDC1, canine orphan receptor RDC1 (Libert *et al.*, 1989). Adapted from Webb *et al.* (1993).

Table 3. *Activity of Nucleotide Analogs in Various Biochemical and Pharmacological Models*

| | P2Y purinoceptors | | | | P2X purinoceptors | | |
| | Biochemical assay Turkey erythrocyte[1] | Mediating relaxation (relative to ATP)[2] | | | Mediating contraction (relative to ATP)[2] | | |
Compound		Guinea-pig taenia	Rabbit aorta	Rabbit mesenteric artery	Rabbit saphenous artery[3]	Guinea-pig vas deferens	Guinea-pig bladder
ATP and triphosphate modifications							
1. ATP	2800 ±700	= (6.2)[4]	= (4.5)	= (6.0)	= [5%]	= (3.5)[5]	=[5]
2. ADP	8000 ±2000	=[5]	= (5.2)	= (5.2)	na	- -[5]	=[5]
3. AMP	4 ±2% at 10^{-4} M	- -[5]	= (4.8)	= (5.0)	na	- -[5]	=[5]
4. αβmeATP	≫100,000	= (5.6)[5]	See footnote 6	See footnote 6	= [5.9%]	- -	na[5]
5. βymeATP	≫100,000	- -[5]	See footnote 6	See footnote 6	+ + [89%]	+ (5.3)[5]	+ + (5.7)[5]
6. βyme-3',5'-cyclic ATP	na	- -	See footnote 6	See footnote 7	+ + [89%]	+[5]	+ +[5]
7. AppNHp	4,450 ±1,150	- -[5]	+ (5.5)	+ (6.6)	na	na	na
8. ATPαS (S-isomer)	8,930 ±4,440	+[5]	See footnote 6	+ (6.6)	na	+	+
9. ATPγS	1,260 ±380	=[5]	+ (5.7)	+ (5.8)	na	=[5]	+
10. ADPβS	96 ±27	=	+ (5.8)	+ (5.8)	na	+ +[5]	+
Base modifications							
11a. 2meSATP	8 ±2	+ + (8.0)	+ + (6.8)[5]	+ + (6.5)	na	=[5]	=[5]
11b. 2-(6-cyano-hexylthio)-ATP	10 ±5	+ + (8.8)	+ + (6.9)	+ + (7.0)	= [9.2%]	+ +	See footnote 8
12. N6methyl-ATP[5]	19,000 ±6,000	+ (5.8)	- -	na	na	+ +	na[5]
13. 8-Bromo-ATP	47,000	- -	na	na	na	na	na[5]
14. 8-(6-Amino-hexylamino)-ATP	8,200 ±1,200	- -	+ + (7.3, <max)	na	na	na	-
15. Adenosine N1-oxide 5'-triphosphate	16,900 ±4,900	- (4.9)	+ + (6.7, >max)	na	na	na	na
16. N1,N6-etheno-ATP	≫100,000	- -	na	na	na	na	na
17. UTP	143,000 ±44,000	- - (3.5)	= (4.8)	+ (6.7)	na	na	-
18. 5-Fluoro-UTP	≫100,000	- -	+ (6.0, ≈max)	na	na	na	+ +

Table 3—*Continued*

| | P2Y purinoceptors | | | | P2X purinoceptors | | |
| | Biochemical assay Turkey erythrocyte[1] | Mediating relaxation (relative to ATP)[2] | | | Mediating contraction (relative to ATP)[2] | | |
Compound		Guinea-pig taenia	Rabbit aorta	Rabbit mesenteric artery	Rabbit saphenous artery[3]	Guinea-pig vas deferens	Guinea-pig bladder
Ribose modifications							
19. 2'-Deoxy-ATP	19,200 ±6,200	= 5.6	na	na	na	na[5]	na
20. 3'-Deoxy-ATP	75,500 ±14,800	- -	na	na	na	=	-
21. 2',3'-Dideoxy-ATP	70,800	= (5.0)				=	+
22. 3'-Amino-3'-deoxy-ATP[5]	193	= (5.4)	+ + (6.4, ≈max)	na	na	+	=
23. 3'-Acetylamino-3'-deoxy-ATP[5]	≫100,000	na	na	+ (<max)	na	=	+
24. 3'-(4-Hydroxyphenylpropionylamino)-3'-deoxy-ATP[5]	≫100,000	na	+ + (<max)	na	na	=	+
25. 3'-Benzylamino-3'-deoxy-ATP	≫100,000	- -	na	na	na	+ +	+ +
26. Isopropylidene-ATP	201,000 ±63,000	- -	na	- -	= [7.7%]	na	- -
27. Isopropylidene-AMP[5]	≫100,000	na	+ + (<max)	na	na	na	na

[1] EC_{50} values (nM) for stimulation of production of inositol phosphates, expressed as the mean ±S.D. for at least 3–5 determinations, or % stimulation at concentration indicated; other symbols as in footnote 2. [2] + +, significantly more potent than ATP; +, more potent than or equal to ATP; =, equal to ATP; -, less potent than or equal to ATP; - -, significantly less potent than ATP; na, not active at the highest concentration tested (usually around 10^{-3} M). Numerical value, if given, is pD_2 in minus log molar units, and for some compounds in rat aorta and mesenteric artery, maximum relaxation relative to 2meSATP (<, ≈, or >) is indicated in parentheses. [3] For the saphenous artery, the percentages in brackets are responses at 10 μM relative to the contraction produced by 1 μM αβmeATP. The highest concentrations tested were 3–10 μM. [4] 6.2±0.08 ($n=38$). [5] Data for smooth muscle from literature reports (Burnstock et al., 1983, 1984; Cooper et al., 1989; Cusack and Hourani, 1990; Jacobson, 1990). [6] Contraction, not relaxation. [7] Relaxation, but pD_2 not calculable. [8] Compound 11b was approximately 100 times more potent than ATP in the bladder, but it produced tonic contractions rather than the phasic contractions of ATP. In the presence of indomethacin (1 μM), it was much less potent than ATP under the same conditions. Modified from Burnstock et al. (1994).

P2Y-purinoceptor heterogeneity, with purinoceptors in the taenia coli and those in the vasculature being recognised differently by ATP derivatives carrying selective structural modifications.

Similarly, heterogeneity of P2X purinoceptors is also suggested. Ribose modifications leading to 3-benzylamino-3'-deoxyATP resulted in a very potent agonist at the P2X purinoceptors in guinea-pig vas deferens and bladder, with no activity in rabbit saphenous artery and at P2Y purinoceptors; this would suggest that the vascular P2X purinoceptor differs from vas deferens and bladder P2X purinoceptors, which appeared to be very similar to each other. This conclusion is also supported by the fact that a number of synthesised derivatives displayed no activity at the saphenous artery P2X purinoceptor, but could not distinguish between the vas deferens and urinary bladder P2X purinoceptors (Table 3). Interestingly, the only compound distinguishing between the vas deferens and the bladder P2X purinoceptor was the pyrimidine compound 5-fluoro-UTP. Whether this is indicative of a true pyrimidine receptor or whether the P2X purinoceptor in the bladder also recognises pyrimidine compounds has yet to be evaluated.

It is apparent from the structure-activity data given in Table 3 that the P2 purinoceptors in the seven tested tissues are all different from one another in their pharmacological profile. This would suggest, therefore, that within the P2X- and P2Y-purinoceptor families there are further subtypes that can be distinguished by the selective actions of ATP derivatives.

4. NEW PROPOSALS FOR P2-PURINOCEPTOR CLASSIFICATION

4.1. P2-Purinoceptor Coupling to Different Transduction Mechanisms: A Criterion for Distinguishing the P2X-(Ligand-Gated) and P2Y-(G-Protein-Coupled) Purinoceptor Families

There is now good evidence to suggest that the P2X- and P2Y-purinoceptor subtypes differ not only in terms of pharmacological profile and tissue distribution, but also in their transduction mechanisms and effector systems. We propose, therefore, the existence of P2X- and P2Y-purinoceptor families, each with their own subdivisions.

Evidence to date suggests that P2X purinoceptors are intrinsic ionic channels permeable to Na$^+$, K$^+$ and Ca^{2+}, whereas P2Y purinoceptors are G-protein-coupled receptors. A common feature of the P2Y-purinoceptor family is the activation, following receptor binding by selective agonists, of a membrane shuttle protein belonging to the GTP-binding protein family (G-proteins), which, in turn, activates selective enzyme effector systems that regulate intracellular concentrations of second messengers (for a review, see Gilman, 1987). In the case of P2Y purinoceptors, effector systems are represented by phospholipase C (which modulates IP3 and DAG formation), phospholipase A2 (with consequent generation of arachidonic acid metabolites), or adenylate cyclase (which modulates cAMP levels) (Fredholm et al., 1994). There is now sufficient data to suggest a further subdivision of P2X and P2Y purinoceptors into subclasses (see Section 3), and based on this, we can hypothesise the existence of P2X-(ligand-gated) and P2Y-(G-protein-coupled) purinoceptor families.

4.2. Do the P2x, P2D and P2n Receptors Belong to the P2Y-Purinoceptor Family?

As reported in Table 1, the so-called P2x, P2D and the P2u/P2n 'pyrimidine' receptors share with 'classic' P2Y purinoceptors the characteristic of utilizing G-proteins for their transduction mechanisms.

Based on this and other evidence, we would like to propose the inclusion of these purinoceptor subtypes within the P2Y-purinoceptor family.

All present and yet-to-be identified receptors belonging to this P2Y-purinoceptor family would involve G-protein activation, and would be named P2Y$_1$, P2Y$_2$, P2Y$_3$, ... P2Y$_n$, with the clear advantages of eliminating the confusion generated by the 'D', 't' and 'u' subheadings and of easily accommodating any 'new' P2Y-purinoceptor subtype by simply assigning it a progressive number.

Apart from the G-protein involvement, there are a number of additional reasons to support this new way of defining the different ATP receptor subtypes.

In the case of the P2u/'nucleotide' receptor, such a classification would be supported by the fact that this receptor subtype recognises both UTP and ATP and has in common with the recently

Table 4. Proposed Subclassification of P2 Purinoceptors

Name	P2X-purinoceptor family[1]	P2Y-purinoceptor family[1]	P2Z
Type	Ligand-gated channel	G-protein-coupled	Non selective pore
General agonist profile	αβmeATP>βγmeATP> ATP≈2meSATP≥ADP	2meSATP>ATP=ADP >αβmeATP≥βγmeATP	ATP^{4-}
Antagonists	αβmeATP desensitisation Suramin Selectively blocked by PPADS ANAPP3	Suramin Reactive blue 2	Oxidised ATP

[1]It is proposed that the P2Y family also includes the former G-protein-linked P2u/P2n/pyrimidine receptor (where UTP≥ATP), the P2t purinoceptor (where ADP is the unique agonist) and the P2D-purinoceptor (where ApxA represents the specific agonist: see text for details).

cloned P2Y$_1$-purinoceptor sequences encoding for the same group of G-protein-coupled receptors (Section 2).

For the P2t receptor, inclusion into the P2Y-purinoceptor family as P2Y$_3$ is proposed following the isolation of a related receptor (clone 103, Barnard et al., 1994) during the cloning work with chick brain, which led to the isolation of the P2Y$_1$ purinoceptor (clone 803, Webb et al., 1993).

For the P2D receptor subtype, inclusion into the P2Y-purinoceptor family would be justified by the fact that, although the major agonists of this subclass are dinucleotides rather than mononucleotides, this receptor subtype displays a 'P2Y-like' pharmacological profile in chromaffin cells and Torpedo synaptic terminals (Pintor and Miras-Portugal, 1993). As summarised in Table 4, acquisition of this new nomenclature would lead to a simpler purinoceptor classification comprising the major divisions P2X/P2Y/P2Z.

To support our hypothesis, we have analysed carefully a number of papers published between 1987 and 1994 on the pharmacological actions of ATP and its analogues. Particular attention has been paid to comparative studies where, besides ATP itself, a variety of different ATP analogues have been tested, in an attempt to assess whether specific pharmacological profiles could be defined in different tissues and systems.

4.3. Proposals for the Subclassification of the P2Y-Purinoceptor Family

By carefully analysing the studies published so far on P2Y-like responses, we were able to define at least seven different agonist potency profiles, which, indeed, would suggest the existence of seven P2Y-purinoceptor subclasses (Table 5).

Two major considerations need to be taken into account before describing in detail the proposed P2Y-purinoceptor subtypes. First, examples listed in Table 5 only refer to cases in the literature where all the key agonists selected by us to establish the rank order of potency for the putative P2Y$_{1-7}$ purinoceptor subtypes have been tested. Of course, there are many more examples of P2Y-like responses in a variety of other tissues or systems not listed in Table 5, where, however, only some of the key compounds have been tested, therefore making it impossible to 'assign' the tissue to a specific receptor subtype. Second, the reader might notice that some tissues are listed twice under two different P2Y-purinoceptor subtypes. Whether this is due to the co-presence of multiple purinoceptor populations in the same tissues or to different tissue preparations and/or animal species is difficult to say at the moment. The use, where available, of molecular probes for the P2Y-purinoceptor subtypes and of the new selective P2Y agonists (Section 3) will be of help in clarifying this aspect.

The P2Y$_1$ receptor recently cloned by Webb et al. (1993) shows the following agonist potency profile: 2meSATP≥ATP ≫ ADP ≫ αβmeATP. We were able to find several examples of systems displaying this agonist potency profile (see list in Table 5). In some cases, pharmacological data correlated well with expression of the chick P2Y$_1$ transcript, as determined in Webb and coworkers' study by Northern hybridisation. This would suggest strongly that the clone identified by Webb et al. is the P2 purinoceptor independently studied by other researchers showing this typical agonist

M. P. Abbracchio and G. Burnstock

Table 5. *Proposed Subclassification of the P2Y G-Protein-Linked Purinoceptor Family*

Proposed subtype	P2Y₁	P2Y₂	P2Y₃†	P2Y₄	P2Y₅	P2Y₆	P2Y₇‡
Agonist potency	2meSATP ≥ ATP ≫ ADP > ≫ αβmeATP	ATP ≥ UTP = ATPγS; UTP > ATP only for footnotes 1–3	2meSADP > ADP	2meSATP ≫ ATP = ADP = αβmeATP > ≫ βγmeATP	2meSATP ≥ ATP = ADP > ≫ αβmeATP βγmeATP inactive	2meSATP > ATP > ADP?	Diadenosine polyphosphates
Selective agonists	2meSATP	UTPγS		2'-deoxy-ATP and also N⁶-methyl-ATP selective for *taenia coli*	8-(6-aminohexylamino)-ATP and ATP-N-oxide selective for *endothelial cells*	No selective agonists available yet; however, the compounds selective for P2Y4 and P2Y5 are inactive on *vascular smooth muscle*	
Name of clone	Clone 803 (Webb *et al.*, 1993)	Clone pP2R (Lustig *et al.*, 1993) Clone HP2U (Parr *et al.*, 1994) Clone from rat heart tissue, (Godecke and Schrader, 1994)	Brain-derived clone 103⁴				
Number of amino acids	362	373 for clone pP2R 375 for clone HP2U					
Tissue	Chick brain⁵ Rat brain cortex⁶ Developing chick skeletal muscle?⁵,⁷ Guinea-pig cochlear hair cells?⁸ Rabbit gastric glands?⁹	Rat renal mesangial cells¹⁰,¹¹ Rat mesenteric arterial bed¹² Rat aortic smooth muscle cells¹³ Rat liver¹¹,¹⁴ Rat hepatocytes¹¹,¹⁵ Rat osteoblastic cells¹⁶ Rabbit¹⁷ and human?¹⁸ neutrophils Guinea-pig brain¹⁹ Sheep pituitary cells²⁰ Rat myocardial endothelium¹,¹¹ and bovine endothelial cells²¹ Skeletal muscle¹¹ Human fibroblasts²² Human amnion cells²,¹¹ Human airway epithelial cells¹¹,²³ HL60 cells²⁴⁻²⁶ PC12 cells²⁷ Mouse neuroblastoma cells²⁸	Platelets²⁹ Megakaryocytes³⁰ Brain capillary endothelial cells?³¹	Guinea-pig taenia coli³ Turkey erythrocytes³²⁻³⁵	Rabbit aorta³⁵ Pig aorta?³⁶ Rat cortical astrocytes³⁷,³⁸ Organ of Corti cells³⁹ Dorsal spinal cord astrocytes⁴⁰	Rabbit coronary⁴¹, hepatic⁴² and mesenteric³⁵ arteries Human subcutaneous and omental resistance arteries?⁴³ Human endothelial cells?⁴⁴	Rat brain synaptosomes⁴⁵ Rat cortical neurons⁴⁶ Chromaffin cells⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ Porcine⁵⁰ and bovine⁵¹ aortic endothelial cells Human platelets⁵²⁻⁵⁴ Mammalian hepatocytes⁵⁵ Guinea-pig vas deferens, urinary bladder⁵⁶ and isolated arteries⁵⁷

*Formerly P₂ₐ or P₂ᵧ or 'nucleotide' receptor. †Formerly P₂. ‡Formerly P2D. ¹As suggested by hybridisation studies with rat heart mRNA (Godecke and Schrader, 1994). ²Vander Kooy *et al.* (1989). ³Satchell and Maguire (1975), Maguire and Satchell (1979), Burnstock *et al.* (1983), Cusack *et al.* (1987). ⁴Two quite different full-length cDNAs were isolated by Webb *et al.* (1993); one encoding for the P2Y₁ purinoceptor, the other encoding for a receptor responsive to ADP (Barnard *et al.*, 1994). Preliminary data suggest that this second recombinant brain-derived receptor is similar, but not identical, to the P₂ₐ receptor of mammalian platelets. This is also consistent with Frelin *et al.* (1993). ⁵Also supported by hybridisation with P2Y₁ mRNA (Webb *et al.*, 1993). ⁶von Kugelgen *et al.* (1994); first description of presynaptic P2 purinoceptors in the CNS. ⁷Thomas *et al.* (1991). ⁸Nakagawa *et al.* (1990). ⁹Gil-Rodrigo *et al.* (1990). ¹⁰Reactive blue 2-dependent effect; clear evidence for G-protein involvement; no evidence for separate ATP and UTP receptors; Pfeilschifter (1990). ¹¹As shown by hybridisation with HP2U mRNA (Parr *et al.*, 1994). ¹²Ralevic and Burnstock (1991). ¹³Pertussis-toxin sensitive effect (Tawada *et al.*, 1987). ¹⁴Haussinger *et al.* (1987). ¹⁵Keppens *et al.* (1992). ¹⁶Clear evidence for a common UTP/ATP receptor-mediating release of Ca²⁺ from internal stores; these cells also have a receptor to ADP (Reimer and Dixon, 1992). ¹⁷Elferink *et al.*, (1992). ¹⁸Pertussis toxin-sensitive effect (Walker *et al.*, 1991). ¹⁹As shown in *Xenopus* oocytes injected with guinea-pig brain mRNA (Honore' *et al.*, 1991). ²⁰Phospholipase C-mediated effects (Davidson *et al.*, 1990). ²¹Phospholipase C-mediated effects; common UTP/ATP receptor suggested (Purkiss *et al.*, 1993). ²²Fine *et al.* (1989). ²³Evidence for a common ATP/UTP receptor coupled to phospholipase C (Mason *et al.*, 1991; Brown *et al.*, 1991); nature of this receptor has been confirmed recently by functional expression of the cloned human receptor in 1321N1 cells (Lazarowski *et al.*, 1994). ²⁴Xing *et al.* (1992). ²⁵Cockcroft and Stutchfield (1989). ²⁶Also shown in *Xenopus* oocytes injected with mRNA from HL60 cells (Murphy and Tiffany, 1990). ²⁷Evidence for an ATP/UTP phospholipase-linked receptor (Murrin and Boarder, 1992); however, it is not clear whether multiple receptors for ATP and UTP are expressed in these cells (Reed *et al.*, 1994). ²⁸As shown by hybridisation with pP2R mRNA (Lustig *et al.*, 1993). ²⁹Cusack *et al.* (1979). ³⁰Burnstock (1991). ³¹ADP-specific receptor inducing Ca²⁺ mobilisation from a thapsigargin-sensitive intracellular pool (Frelin *et al.*, 1993). ³²Berrie *et al.* (1989). ³³Boyer *et al.* (1990). ³⁴2-(6-cyanohexylthio)-ATP shows nanomolar potency at the turkey erythrocyte P2Y receptor (Fischer *et al.*, 1993). ³⁵Burnstock *et al.* (1994). ³⁶Martin *et al.* (1985). ³⁷Phospholipase C-linked receptor (Kastritsis *et al.*, 1992). ³⁸Activation of this receptor leads to intracellular Ca²⁺-dependent arachidonic acid release (Bruner and Murphy, 1990). ³⁹Dulon *et al.* (1993). ⁴⁰Activation of this receptor leads to mobilisation of Ca²⁺ from a thapsigargin-sensitive intracellular store (Salter and Hicks, 1994). ⁴¹Corr and Burnstock (1991). ⁴²Brizzolara and Burnstock (1991). ⁴³αβmeATP practically inactive (Martin *et al.*, 1991). ⁴⁴Carter *et al.* (1988) reported that activation of this receptor on human cultured umbilical vein endothelial cells induces intracellular Ca²⁺-dependent prostacyclin secretion. Evidence was produced in favour of the different nature of this receptor from the taenia coli P2Y purinoceptor. ⁴⁵Pintor *et al.* (1993). ⁴⁶Stone and Perkins (1981). ⁴⁷Pintor *et al.* (1991a). ⁴⁸Pintor *et al.* (1991b). ⁴⁹Castro *et al.* (1992). ⁵⁰Goldman *et al.* (1986). ⁵¹Ogilvie *et al.* (1989). ⁵²Flodgaard and Klenow (1992). ⁵³Luthje and Ogilvie (1983). ⁵⁴Zamecnik *et al.* (1992). ⁵⁵Rapaport and Zamecnik (1976). ⁵⁶Hoyle *et al.* (1989); Hoyle (1990). ⁵⁷Busse *et al.* (1988).

Purinoceptors: Are there families of P2X and P2Y purinoceptors?

potency profile. In other cases, there was a clear, although not yet conclusive, matching between the pharmacological data and the results of the hybridization studies with $P2Y_1$ mRNA. For example, Thomas et al. (1991) reported the presence of a P2 purinoceptor (whose pharmacological profile was not unequivocally assessed) in chick skeletal muscle, a tissue that was shown to abundantly express the $P2Y_1$ transcript. However, it is not clear if the receptor described by Thomas et al. is a G-protein-linked receptor or a ligand-gated cation channel.

In analysing the abundant literature on the UTP-sensitive receptor, we could identify two receptor behaviour patterns: in most cases, UTP was equipotent with ATP, whereas in a few other examples, UTP was more potent than ATP. At present, there is not sufficient data to support the existence of two different UTP-sensitive purinoceptors (the first one preferentially responding to ATP and the second one preferentially responding to UTP), and we, therefore, put together the two agonist behaviour patterns and named this purinoceptor $P2Y_2$ (Table 5). UTPγS seems to behave as a selective agonist at this receptor subtype (Table 5).

Based on our proposal, clone pP2R (Lustig et al., 1993), therefore, would be the $P2Y_2$-purinoceptor subtype. The detection of the pP2R transcript in kidney, liver, lung, heart and brain (Lustig et al., 1993) matches well with the reported presence of the $P2Y_2$ purinoceptor in rat renal mesangial cells (Pfeilschifter, 1990), rat hepatocytes (Keppens et al., 1992), human airway epithelial cells (Mason et al., 1991; Brown et al., 1991; Lazarowski et al., 1994) and guinea-pig brain (Honoré et al., 1991; Table 5). As underlined in Table 5, a good correlation from previous literature reports and expression of receptor mRNA was also found for the recently cloned HP2U purinoceptor (Parr et al., 1994).

In the examples listed in Table 5, the effects of ATP and UTP do not seem to be additive when both agents are utilised at maximal doses suggesting the presence of a common ATP/UTP receptor (references 10, 15, 16 and 23 of Table 5), in agreement with the conclusion recently drawn by Keppens (1993) in reviewing the effects of ATP and UTP in isolated hepatocytes. Moreover, where tested, UTP responses appear to be antagonised by reactive blue 2 or suramin, which are known to act as antagonists at 'classic' P_{2Y} purinoceptors (Hoyle et al., 1990). Both these characteristics further strengthen the inclusion of this receptor into the P_{2Y}-purinoceptor family.

Nonetheless, there may be a need to recognise new classes of receptor associated with the P2 families that are not yet included in our proposed classification. For example, recent data from the C6-2B rat glioma cell line identified a phospholipase C-linked receptor, which was claimed to be selectively activated by UTP and related uridine nucleotides, but showed insensitivity to ATP, thus differentiating it from the pP2R and HP2R clones (Lazarowski and Harden, 1994). This receptor may represent a new class of 'P_2-like' receptor. For the long term, the resolution of whether there are distinct $P2Y_2$ ('P2U') and 'UTP' (pyrimidine) receptors will be dependent on the generation of new data, both molecular and pharmacological, that will unambiguously delineate the nature of the receptor subtypes responding to UTP (Williams, 1994).

The currently named P_{2T} receptor ($P2Y_3$ in our proposed subclassification) seems to be expressed exclusively by platelets and megakaryocytes. However, we were able to find a very recent report of a similar ADP receptor in brain capillary endothelial cells (Frelin et al., 1993), which would suggest a wider biological role for this receptor subtype. The possible presence in brain of a P2-purinoceptor subtype displaying a strong preference to ADP is also suggested by the second recombinant brain-derived receptor recently cloned by the Barnard/Burnstock London group and obtained during the polymerase chain reaction amplification of sequences encoding G-protein-coupled receptors, which led to the cloning of the $P2Y_1$-purinoceptor subtype (Webb et al., 1993). This second clone, designated $P2Y_3$, is largely similar (although not identical) to the P_{2T} purinoceptor of mammalian platelets, and Northern hybridisation studies have revealed the presence of this mRNA in brain and several peripheral tissues (Barnard et al., 1994). These results confirm that the currently named P_{2T} receptor also belongs to the G-protein-coupled receptor superfamily and underlines its close relationship to the P2Y-purinoceptor family.

In our analysis of the literature in this area, we also found examples in favour of three additional agonist potency profiles: 2meSATP $\gg$ ATP = ADP! = $\alpha\beta$meATP $\gg$ $\beta\gamma$meATP ($P2Y_4$), 2meSATP $\gg$ ATP = ADP $\gg$ $\alpha\beta$meATP ($\beta\gamma$meATP inactive) ($P2Y_5$), and 2meSATP > ATP > ADP ($P2Y_6$). These three additional receptors can now be discriminated from each other with the aid of newly synthesised compounds.

The prototype for the $P2Y_4$ subtype is represented by the guinea-pig taenia coli, and this receptor

seems to be selectively activated by the new compounds 2'-deoxy-ATP and N^6-methyl-ATP (Table 5 and Section 3). A characteristic of this receptor is the much higher sensitivity to 2meSATP with respect to ATP. For example, 2meSATP is 250-fold more potent than either ATP or ADP in stimulating phosphatidylinositol breakdown in turkey erythrocytes (Bernie et al., 1989).

The prototype for the $P2Y_5$ subtype is represented by the endothelial receptor mediating blood vessel relaxation via generation of nitric oxide. The new compounds 8-(6-aminohexylamino)-ATP and ATP-N-oxide, which were shown to be selective for aortic endothelial cells (Burnstock et al., 1994), could behave as selective $P2Y_5$ purinoceptor agonists and will be useful tools to be tested in the biological systems displaying a similar agonist potency profile (Refs 37–40 of Table 5), which, besides endothelial cells, also include astrocytes and Organ of Corti cells.

The $P2Y_6$ purinoceptor is the vascular smooth muscle receptor responsible for direct ATP vasodilation (Refs 35, 41 and 42 of Table 5). No selective agonists are available yet for this purinoceptor subtype. However, derivatives selective for the $P2Y_4$ and $P2Y_5$ subtypes are available for this receptor subtype. Again, future studies aimed at testing the activity of the new compounds in a variety of tissues will confirm the identity and nature of this hypothetical purinoceptor subtype.

Interestingly, one of the newly synthesised analogs, 2-(6-cyanohexylthio)-ATP, was proven to be extremely potent at both the guinea-pig taenia coli and the rabbit aorta and the rabbit mesenteric artery ($P2Y_4$–$P2Y_6$) purinoceptor subtypes (Fischer et al., 1993; Burnstock et al., 1994). This compound belongs to the family of long-chain 2-alkylthio-ATP derivatives, which were previously shown to resist degradation by nucleotidases (Zimmet et al., 1993) and may serve as the basis for the design of useful molecular probes for ATP receptors.

Finally, an additional purinoceptor subtype included in this receptor family is the $P2Y_7$ purinoceptor (formerly P_{2D}), the presence of which has been demonstrated in a variety of systems (Refs 45–57 of Table 5). The reasons for assigning this receptor to the P2Y-purinoceptor family have been explained previously (Section 4.2) and, again, a definite confirmation, or not, that this represents a P2Y-purinoceptor subtype distinct from the others will come from cloning data.

4.4. Proposals for the Subclassification of the P2X-Purinoceptor Family

The use of new ATP derivatives with modified purine, ribose or triphosphate moieties suggests heterogeneity within the P2X-ion-gated purinoceptors (Burnstock et al., 1994). This heterogeneity is also consistent with the results of our analysis of a series of literature papers reporting P2X-like responses. Again, the references reported here refer to studies where a number of key agonists have been tested and, therefore, this review cannot be comprehensive for all the papers published on P2X-purinoceptor-mediated effects.

Although evidence for subclassification in this case was less obvious than that of the P2Y purinoceptor, there are indications for at least four different agonist potency profiles, leading to the identification of four P2X-purinoceptor subclasses (Table 6).

Guinea-pig vas deferens seems to be the prototype of the first P2X purinoceptor subtype. In general, at this receptor, $\alpha\beta$meATP is equipotent with ATP in inducing contraction (Burnstock et al., 1994; Wiklund and Gustafsson, 1988). This receptor recently has been reported to have been cloned by the Glaxo group (A. Surprenant, personal communication*), and, therefore, it has been named it P2X. It will be, of course, extremely interesting to test the new ATP derivatives shown to be selective for vas deferens (Section 3) on the cloned transfected receptor. Useful information is likely to come in the near future from an analysis of the distribution of its mRNA in the other tissues showing P2X-like responses.

The pharmacology of the urinary bladder P2X purinoceptor appears to be different from that of the vas deferens receptor. In both guinea-pig (Burnstock et al., 1994; Cusack, 1993) and rat urinary bladder (Bo et al., 1994) both $\alpha\beta$meATP and $\beta\gamma$meATP are significantly more potent than ATP and 2meSATP. The different nature of this receptor is also confirmed by the fact that it can be discriminated from the vas deferens receptor with the new derivative 5-fluoro-UTP (Section 3; Table 6). Both this compound and the other new derivatives reported in Tables 3 and 6 will be invaluable experimental tools to test the presence of this receptor subtype (named P2X) in a number of systems.

*See Valera et al. (1994) in "Note added in proof".

Table 6. *Proposed Subclassification of the P2X-Ion Gated Purinoceptor Family*

Proposed subtype	P2X₁	P2X₂	P2X₃	P2X₄
Selective agonists	2-(4-nitrophenylethyl-thio)ATP > 3'-amino-3'-deoxy-ATP = 2-hexyl-thioATP = 2-cyclo-hexyl-thioATP	5-fluoro-UTP > 2-hexyl-thioATP = 3'-acetylamino-3'-deoxy-ATP > 3'(4-hydroxy-phenylproprionyl-amino)-3'-deoxy-ATP	No selective agonists available; however, the compounds selective on the other subtypes are inactive	No selective agonists available
Tissues	Guinea-pig vas deferens[1-3]	Guinea-pig[1,4] and rat[5] urinary bladder Rabbit bladder detrusor[6] Rat colon longitudinal muscle?[7]	Vascular smooth muscle[1]	Peripheral[8-12] and central[13-16] neurons Ventricular myocytes[17] Microglial cells[18]

[1]Burnstock *et al.* (1994). [2]Wiklund and Gustafsson (1988). [3]A. Surprenant, personal communication. [4]Cusack (1993). [5]Bo *et al.* (1994). [6]Kishii *et al.* (1992). [7]Bailey and Hourani (1992). [8]Bean (1990). [9]Allen and Burnstock (1990). [10]Krishtal *et al.* (1983). [11]Fieber and Adams (1991). [12]Surprenant (1994). [13]Ueno *et al.* (1992). [14]Edwards *et al.* (1992). [15]Tschopl *et al.* (1992). [16]Shen and North (1993). [17]Bjornsson *et al.* (1989). [18]Langosch *et al.* (1994).

A third P2X-purinoceptor subclass (P2X) might be represented by the receptor expressed in vascular smooth muscle. At the saphenous artery P2X purinoceptor, 2meSATP and the new derivatives selective for the P2X₁ and P2X₂ are inactive (Burnstock *et al.*, 1994; Table 6). It would be interesting to assess the similarities of this receptor with that described by O'Connor *et al.* (1990) in rabbit ear artery. No selective agonists for this receptor subtype are available yet.

An additional P2X-purinoceptor subtype (P2X₄) might be represented by the neuronal ATP-activated cation channel described in peripheral and central neurons (references 8-16 in Table 6). The general order of potency for ATP analogues in activating this receptor is 2meSATP > ATP > αβmeATP (Illes and Norenberg, 1993). A similar behaviour is displayed by ATP derivatives also in ventricular myocytes (reference 17 in Table 6) and rat microglial cells (reference 18 in Table 6). The different nature of this receptor from the other hypothesised P2X-purinoceptor subtypes is confirmed by preliminary results, suggesting that the transfected P2X₄ purinoceptor clone behaves differently in terms of pharmacological response from the neuronal ATP-sensitive channel (A. Surprenant, personal communication).

Finally, there are a number of reports in favour of the existence of excitatory purinoceptors responding to both ATP and UTP (von Kugelgen *et al.*, 1987, 1990; von Kugelgen and Starke, 1990; Saiag *et al.*, 1990, 1992; Theobald, 1992; Hourani *et al.*, 1993; Pavenstadt *et al.*, 1991; Rubino and Burnstock, 1994; Ralevic and Burnstock, 1991). This receptor differs from the proposed P2Y₁ purinoceptor (=P₂ᵤ purinoceptor), since apparently it is not coupled to G-proteins, but mediates rapid and transient responses (usually excitatory). In some instances and tissues, evidence was produced in favour of a common ATP/UTP receptor (von Kugelgen *et al.*, 1990; Hourani *et al.*, 1993; Ralevic and Burnstock, 1991); in other cases, distinct UTP receptors were hypothesised (Saiag *et al.*, 1990, 1992; von Kugelgen *et al.*, 1987). Whether this receptor really represents a distinct entity with respect to the other P2X-purinoceptor subtypes cannot be specified at this time, also because UTP was not tested in all the other studies reported for receptors P2X₁-P2X₄. Here again help will come from molecular cloning studies.

We are aware of the fact that differences of agonist order potency within different tissues may partially derive from different ecto-ATPase activities (Cusack, 1993). In this respect, useful and crucial information in terms of purinoceptor classification could come either from the use of dephosphorylation-resistant agonists (e.g. L-βγ-methylene-ATP; Cusack, 1993) or by utilising inhibitors of nucleotide degradation (Leff *et al.*, 1994; Ziganshin *et al.*, 1994a).

5. P2-PURINOCEPTOR LIGANDS AS POTENTIAL THERAPEUTIC ENTITIES

While there have been several excellent reviews on the potential development of P1-purinoceptor targeted drugs (Daly, 1982; Daval *et al.*, 1991; Jacobson *et al.*, 1992; Stone, 1992; Williams, 1993), there has been very little discussion on the possible clinical and therapeutic applications of P2-purinoceptor agonists and antagonists (Burnstock, 1993).

Due to the recent explosion of interest in P2 purinoceptors, which has enormously advanced our knowledge on the functional roles of ATP in many different organs and systems, we now have enough experimental data to suggest that P2 purinoceptors might also represent a novel target for drug development in a variety of pathological conditions.

Moreover, the large heterogeneity of P2-purinoceptor subtypes in the different tissues underlined in this review opens the possibility of developing highly selective organ- or tissue-specific P2-purinoceptor-targeted drugs. Several exciting possibilities are being explored.

5.1 Diabetes

A number of studies has demonstrated the presence of P2Y purinoceptors on insulin-secreting pancreatic β-cells (Bertrand *et al.*, 1987; Arkhammar *et al.*, 1990; Li *et al.*, 1991; Hillaire-Buys *et al.*, 1992, 1993). The activation of this receptor leads to potent phospholipase C-mediated intracellular Ca²⁺ mobilisation, sustained insulin secretion and notable improvement of glucose tolerance. Interestingly, not only was the ectonucleotidase-resistant P2Y-purinoceptor agonist ADPβS demonstrated to be effective after oral administration (Hillaire-Buys *et al.*, 1993), but this agent also retained its insulin-stimulatory effects in streptozotocin-diabetic rats (Hillaire-Buys *et al.*, 1992).

These findings suggest that the P2Y purinoceptor represents a novel target for the development of oral antidiabetic drugs.

5.2. Cancer

Based on the potent growth inhibition of a variety of human and murine tumour cells by extracellular ATP, the administration of AMP or ATP to tumour-bearing murine hosts was shown to be associated with dramatic cytostatic and cytotoxic effects (Rapaport, 1993). Such anticancer activity is likely related to the activation of P2Z purinoceptors mediating cell killing through apoptosis (Pizzo et al., 1993; Murgia et al., 1992). The utilisation of ATP infusions against metastatic refractory cancers has already entered Phase I of human clinical trials. This clinical application is particularly intriguing since studies in cachectic tumor models have shown that the ATP-mediated tumor-killing activity is also associated with a variety of host-mediated anticancer activities, including significant inhibition of host weight loss (Rapaport, 1993).

5.3. Cystic Fibrosis

P2 purinoceptors have been shown to regulate ion transport in epithelial cells from a variety of different sources, including intestinal, lung and kidney epithelium, where ATP stimulates Cl^- transport and alters Ca^{2+} distribution (Burnstock, 1991). Cystic fibrosis (CF) is a lethal genetic disease characterised by defective regulation of chloride conductance in airway epithelia, which leads to the formation of underhydrated mucus obstructing the airways of patients with this disease (Noone and Knowles, 1993). Both ATP and UTP were found to be effective in vivo Cl^- secretagogues in the nasal mucosa of human subjects, an effect that seemed secondary to the activation of phospholipase C and Ca^{2+}-dependent phosphorylation of Cl^- channels (Stutts et al., 1992). Most interestingly, regulation of Cl^- conductance by ATP and UTP was preserved in CF nasal epithelia (Clarke and Boucher, 1992). On the basis of these results, it is intriguing to speculate that agonists at this P2-purinoceptor subtype (a $P2Y_2$ receptor) might be of enormous clinical interest in normalising electrolyte and water secretion across CF airway epithelia.

5.4. Pulmonary Hypertension

In the lung, the most interesting target for drug development is represented by the vascular pulmonary P2 purinoceptor mediating ATP-induced vasoconstriction (McCormack et al., 1993). This receptor seems different from the typical P2Y purinoceptor responsible for excitatory (vasoconstrictor) responses, being equally activated by ATP and UTP (Rubino and Burnstock, 1994). The demonstration of a new purinoceptor involved in the control of pulmonary circulation is particularly intriguing, especially in view of the fact that attempts to lower pulmonary vascular resistance with pharmacological agents have been largely unsuccessful (McCormack et al., 1993). Based on this, antagonists at the ATP/UTP vasoconstrictor lung purinoceptor might have therapeutic potential in hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction and in pulmonary hypertension.

5.5. Surfactant and Mucin Secretion

ATP also affects additional lung functional parameters. ATP has been demonstrated to increase mucin release from cultured airway goblet cells through the production of inositol phosphate (Kim et al., 1993), suggesting a role for P2Y purinoceptors in maintaining lung visco-elastic properties and, consequently, in the defence against airborne particles. Phospholipase C-linked P2 purinoceptors also have been demonstrated to be expressed by Type II pneumocytes, the lung cell type responsible for surfactant secretion (Griese et al., 1993). Activation of this receptor leads to increases of surfactant secretion into the bronchial lumen. Based on the hypothesis that, in some forms of pneumonia (Lachmann and Gommers, 1993), the decreased respiratory performance can be attributed to deficiency of surfactant secretion, it would be possible to propose the use of ATP analogs to optimise surfactant secretion in these pathologies.

5.6. Renal Failure

Acute renal failure is commonly provoked by renal ischaemia. Current therapeutic strategies to improve renal blood flow are limited to resuscitation of the systemic circulation and infusion of low doses of dopamine. Failure of this line of management frequently leaves the patient requiring haemodialysis. P2X purinoceptors on the vascular smooth muscle of pre-glomerular (afferent) arterioles can represent an obvious target for antagonists that could enhance renal blood flow and help restore normal renal function. Likewise, analogues of ATP that stimulate P2Y purinoceptors could also increase renal blood flow (Churchill and Ellis, 1993a), although this may be opposed by P2Y purinoceptors mediating renin release (Churchill and Ellis, 1993b).

Renal infusion of $ATP-MgCl_2$ has been demonstrated to enhance post-ischaemic recovery of both glomerular and tubular functions (Siegel et al., 1983; Hirasawa et al., 1985), underlining the possible use of ATP analogues in preventing ischemia-induced renal damage, although the mechanism of action is not fully understood. Beneficial effects of $ATP-MgCl_2$ have been demonstrated also against drug-induced nephrotoxicity (Sumpio et al., 1985) and for kidney preservation before transplantation (Belzer et al., 1983).

Interestingly, exogenous ATP stimulates the proliferation of mesangial cells in glomerulonephritis (Schulze-Lohoff et al., 1992). Specific antagonists of P2 purinoceptors, therefore, may have a therapeutic potential in modulating the anti-inflammatory process of this serious disease.

5.7. Bone and Cartilage Diseases

ATP stimulates cartilage resorption through the activation of a P2 purinoceptor responsive to both ATP and UTP on chondrocytes (Caswell et al., 1991). Interestingly, cytokines, which have been strongly implicated in the loss of cartilage extracellular matrix in rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, seem to act through enhancement of chondrocyte responsiveness to extracellular ATP (Leong et al., 1993). Similarly, P2 purinoceptors have been demonstrated to be expressed also by osteoblasts (Kumagai et al., 1991; Scholf et al., 1992; Reimer and Dixon, 1992; Yu and Ferrier, 1993) and osteoclasts (Yu and Ferrier, 1993). In osteoblasts, P2 purinoceptor activation by both ATP and UTP has been associated with fast intracellular Ca^{2+} pulses (a $P2Y_2$ receptor?). Since indirect stimulation of osteoclastic resorption is thought to be triggered by an initial elevation of $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ in osteoblasts (Reimer and Dixon, 1992), it is intriguing to speculate that the blockade of the osteoblast receptor by selective P2Y-purinoceptor antagonists might be beneficial in pathologies characterised by excessive bone demineralisation such as osteoporosis.

5.8. Urinary Incontinence

ATP has been proposed to be the transmitter responsible for the atropine-resistant contractile response of isolated detrusor muscle elicited by transmural nerve stimulation (Burnstock et al., 1972, 1978). This effect is exerted through the activation of P2X purinoceptors (Burnstock and Kennedy, 1985; Bo and Burnstock, 1990). In interstitial cystitis (a chronic bladder disorder characterised by incontinence), a pathological increase of detrusor muscle sensitivity to ATP analogs was demonstrated recently (Palea et al., 1993), opening interesting possibilities for selective P2X antagonists in the treatment of chronic bladder disorders characterised by dysuria.

5.9. Thrombosis

ATP has been reported to antagonise ADP-induced human platelet aggregation (Table 1; Cusack and Hourani, 1982), which might have interesting implications in the development of anti-thrombotic agents.

5.10. Ventricular Tachycardia

Both P_1- and P_2-purinoceptor antagonists have been recommended for paroxysmal ventricular tachycardia (Belhassen and Pelleg, 1984).

5.11. Gastro-intestinal Tract

ATP has long been recognised as a nonadrenergic, noncholinergic inhibitory transmitter in the gastro-intestinal tract (Burnstock et al., 1970) and more recently in sympathetic nerves supplying the intestine, where ATP is co-stored and co-released with noradrenaline (for a review, see Hoyle and Burnstock, 1991). P2 purinoceptors (in most cases of the P2Y-subtype, mediating relaxation) so far have been identified in stomach and intestinal smooth muscle, in intestinal ganglia and in endothelial and smooth muscle cells of vessels supplying the gastro-intestinal tract (Hoyle and Burnstock, 1991; Burnstock et al., 1994). In the next few years, these receptors are likely to be explored as possible targets for the development of new pharmacological agents with therapeutic potential in gastro-intestinal dysfunctions.

5.12. Centrally Targeted P2 Purinoceptor Drugs

The recent demonstration of P2 purinoceptors in the CNS (Table 5) also opens interesting opportunities for the development of novel pharmacological agents for the treatment of CNS disorders, such as epilepsy, depression and aging-associated neurodegenerative diseases (Burnstock, 1993; Williams, 1993).

5.13. Human Reproduction

The demonstration of ATP receptors on human spermatozoa (Foresta et al., 1992) and amnion cells (Vander Kooy et al., 1989) may suggest in the near future additional therapeutic implications for P2-purinoceptor agonists and antagonists in human reproduction.

6. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Perhaps the most important area for future research, partly to substantiate our proposed P2-purinoceptor subclassification and also in relation to therapeutic development, is to identify selective antagonists for the different P2-purinoceptor subclasses defined in this review; antagonists that are effective in vivo are especially desirable.

Acknowledgements—The authors are grateful to Prof. E. Barnard, to Drs X. Bo, S. Ceruti, C. H. V. Hoyle, K. A. Jacobson, C. Kennedy, P. Milner, V. Ralevic, A. L. Rubino, J. Simon, D. Williams and M. Williams, to Miss T. Webb for useful advice and suggestions, to Mrs A. Evans and C. Chieregato for typing the manuscript and to D. Christie for editorial help.

NOTE ADDED IN PROOF

When this paper was already in press, two independent reports appeared in *Nature* on the cloning of two different ionotropic P2X-purinoceptors from rat vas deferens (Valera et al., *Nature* 371: 516–519) and from PC12 cells (Brake et al., *Nature* 371: 519–523). The first one is the receptor communicated by Suprenant in the present review. For both receptors, deduced membrane topology was strikingly different from that of other ionotropic transmitter receptors such as the acetylcholine nicotinic receptor. In both cases, deduced amino acid sequence contained two hydrophobic putative transmembrane domains with an intervening hydrophilic cysteine-rich loop of 270–287 amino acids, suggesting that P2X-purinoceptors may belong to an entirely different class of transmembrane signalling proteins. Consistently with our proposal on P2X-purinoceptor heterogeneity, the two receptors revealed different pharmacological profiles when expressed in oocytes and their transcripts showed different tissue distribution as revealed by in situ hybridisation analysis.

REFERENCES

Abbracchio, M. P., Cattabeni, F., Fredholm, B. B. and Williams, M. (1993) Purinoceptor nomenclature: a status report. *Drug Dev. Res.* 28: 207–213.

Allen, T. G. J. and Burnstock, G. (1990) The actions of adenosine 5'-triphosphate on guinea pig intracardiac neurons in culture. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 100: 269–276.

Arkhammar, P., Hallberg, A., Kindmark, H., Nilsson, T., Rorsman, P. and Berggren, P. O. (1990) Extracellular ATP increases cytoplasmic free Ca²⁺ concentration in clonal insulin-producing RINm5F cells. *Biochem. J.* 265: 203–211.

Bailey, S. J. and Hourani, S. M. O. (1992) Effects of purines on the longitudinal muscle of the rat colon. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 105: 885–892.

Barnard, E. A., Burnstock G. and Webb, T. E. (1994) The G-protein coupled receptors for ATP and other nucleotides: a new receptor family. *Trends Pharmac. Sci.* 15: 67–70.

Bean, B. P. (1990) ATP-activated channels in rat and bullfrog sensory neurons: concentration dependence and kinetics. *J. Neurosci.* 10: 1–10.

Bean, B. P. (1992) Pharmacology and electrophysiology of ATP-activated ion channels. *Trends Pharmac. Sci.* 13: 87–90.

Belhassen, B. and Pelleg, A. (1984) Acute management of paroxysmal supraventricular tachycardia: verapamil and adenosine triphosphate or adenosine? *Am. J. Cardiol.* 54: 225–227.

Belzer, F. O., Sollinger, H. W., Glass, N. R., Miller, D. T., Hoffmann, R. M. and Southard, J. H. (1983) Beneficial effects of adenosine and phosphate in kidney preservation. *Transplantation* 36: 633–635.

Benham, C. D. and Tsien, R. W. (1987) A novel receptor-operated Ca²⁺-permeable channel activated by ATP in smooth muscle. *Nature* 238: 275–278.

Berne, R. M. (1963) Cardiac nucleotides in hypoxia: possible role in regulation of coronary blood flow. *Am. J. Physiol.* 204: 317–322.

Berne, C. P., Hawkins, P. T., Stephens, L. R., Harden, T. K. and Downes, C. P. (1989) Phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate hydrolysis in turkey erythrocytes is regulated by P₂ᵧ purinoceptors. *Molec. Pharmac.* 35: 526–532.

Bertrand, G., Chapal, J., Loubatieres-Mariani, M. M. and Roye, M. (1987) Evidence for two different P₂-purinoceptors on β cell and pancreatic vascular bed. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 91: 783–787.

Bjornsson, O. G., Monck, J. R. and Williamson, J. R. (1989) Identification of P₂ᵧ purinoceptors associated with voltage-activated cation channels in cardiac ventricular myocytes of the rat. *Eur. J. Biochem.* 186: 395–404.

Bo, X. and Burnstock, G. (1990) The effects of Bay K 8644 and nifedipine on the responses of rat urinary bladder to electrical field stimulation, β,γ-methylene ATP and acetylcholine. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 101: 494–498.

Bo, X., Fischer, B., Maillard, M., Jacobson, K. A. and Burnstock, G. (1994) Comparative studies on the affinities of ATP derivatives to P₂ₓ-purinoceptors in rat urinary bladder. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 112: 1151–1159.

Boyer, J. L., Cooper, C. L. and Harden, T. K. (1990) [³²P]3'-O-(4-Benzoyl)benzoyl ATP as a photoaffinity label for a phospholipase C-coupled P₂ᵧ-purinergic receptor. *J. biol. Chem.* 265: 13515–13520.

Brizzolara, A. L. and Burnstock, G. (1991) Endothelium-dependent and endothelium-independent vasodilatation of the hepatic artery of the rabbit. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 103: 1206–1212.

Brown, H. A., Lazarowski, E. R., Boucher, R. C. and Harden, T. K. (1991) Evidence that UTP and ATP regulate phospholipase C through a common extracellular 5'-nucleotide receptor in human airway epithelial cells. *Molec. Pharmac.* 40: 648–655.

Bruner, G. and Murphy, S. (1990) ATP-evoked arachidonic acid mobilization in astrocytes is via a P₂ᵧ-purinergic receptor. *J. Neurochem.* 55: 1569–1575.

Burnstock, G. (1972) Purinergic nerves. *Pharmac. Rev.* 24: 509–581.

Burnstock, G. (1976) Do some nerve cells release more than one transmitter? *Neuroscience* 1: 239–248.

Burnstock, G. (1978) A basis for distinguishing two types of purinergic receptor. In: *Cell Membrane Receptors for Drugs and Hormones: A Multidisciplinary Approach*, pp. 107–118, Straub, R. W. and Bolis, L. (eds) Raven Press, New York.

Burnstock, G. (1990) Co-transmission. The Fifth Heymans Memorial Lecture. *Arch. int. Pharmacodyn. Ther.* 304: 7–33.

Burnstock, G. (1991) Distribution and roles of purinoceptor subtypes. *Nucleosides Nucleotides* 10: 917–930.

Burnstock, G. (1993) Physiological and pathological roles of purines: an update. *Drug Dev. Res.* 28: 195–206.

Burnstock, G. and Kennedy, C. (1985) Is there a basis for distinguishing two types of P₂-purinoceptor? *Gen. Pharmac.* 16: 433–440.

Burnstock, G., Campbell G., Satchell, D. G. and Smythe, A. (1970) Evidence that adenosine triphosphate or a related nucleotide is the transmitter substance released by non-adrenergic inhibitory nerves in the gut. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 40: 668–688.

Burnstock, G., Dumsday, B. and Smythe, A. (1972) Atropine resistant excitation of the urinary bladder: the possibility of transmission via nerves releasing a purine nucleotide. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 44: 451–456.

Burnstock, G., Cocks, T., Crowe, R. and Kasakov, L. (1978) Purinergic innervation of the guinea-pig urinary bladder. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 63: 125–138.

Burnstock, G., Cusack, N. J., Mackenzie, I. and Meghji, P. (1983) Studies on the stereoselectivity of the P₂-purinoceptor. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 79: 907–913.

Burnstock, G., Cusack, N. J., Hills, J. M. and Meldrum, L. A. (1984) Effects of phosphorothioate analogues of ATP, ADP and AMP on guinea-pig taenia coli and urinary bladder. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 82: 369–374.

Burnstock, G., Fischer, B., Hoyle, C. H. V., Maillard, M., Ziganshin, A. U., Brizzolara, A. L., von Isakovics, A., Boyer, J. L., Kendall-Harden, T. and Jacobson, K. A. (1994) Structure activity relationships for derivatives of adenosine-5'-triphosphate as agonists at P₁-purinoceptors: heterogeneity within P₂ₓ and P₂ᵧ subtypes. *Drug Dev. Res.* 31: 206–219.

Busse, R., Ogilvie, A. and Pohl, U. (1988) Vasomotor activity of diadenosine triphosphate and diadenosine tetraphosphate in isolated arteries. *Am. J. Physiol.* 254: H828–832.

Carter, T. D., Hallam, T. J., Cusack, N. J. and Pearson, J. D. (1988) Regulation of P₂ᵧ-purinoceptor-mediated prostacyclin release from human endothelial cells by cytoplasmic calcium concentration. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 95: 1181–1190.

Castro, E., Pintor, J. and Miras-Portugal, M. T. (1992) Ca^{2+}-stores mobilization by diadenosine tetraphosphate, Ap₄A, through a putative P₂y purinoceptor in adrenal chromaffin cells. Br. J. Pharmac. 106: 833–837.

Carswell, A. M., Leong, W. S. and Russel, R. G. G. (1991) Evidence for the presence of P₂-purinoceptors at the surface of human articular chondrocytes in monolayer culture. Biochim. Biophys. Acta 1074: 151–158.

Churchill, P. C. and Ellis, V. R. (1993a) Pharmacological characterisation of the renovascular P₁ purinergic receptors. J. Pharmac. exp. Ther. 265: 334–338.

Churchill, P. C. and Ellis, V. R. (1993b) Purinergic P₂y receptors stimulate renin secretion by rat renal cortical slices. J. Pharmac. exp. Ther. 266: 160–163.

Clarke, L. L. and Boucher, R. C. (1992) Chloride secretory response to extracellular ATP in human normal and cystic fibrosis nasal epithelia. Am. J. Physiol. 263 (Cell Physiol. 32): C348–C356.

Cockcroft, S. and Stutchfield, J. (1989) The receptor for ATP and (Met)LeuPhe are independently coupled to phospholipases C and A₂ via G-protein(s). Biochem. J. 263: 715–723.

Cooper, C. L., Morris, A. J. and Harden, T. K. (1989) Guanine nucleotide-sensitive interaction of a radiolabeled agonist with a phospholipase C-linked P₂y-purinergic receptor. J. biol. Chem. 264: 6202–6206.

Confield, L. J., Hu, S., Hurt, S. D. and Sills, M. A. (1992) [³H]2-Phenylaminoadenosine (PHJCV 1808) labels a novel adenosine receptor in rat brain. J. Pharmac. exp. Ther. 263: 552–561.

Corr, L. and Burnstock, G. (1991) Vasodilator response of coronary smooth muscle to the sympathetic co-transmitters noradrenaline and adenosine 5'-triphosphate. Br. J. Pharmac. 104: 337–342.

Cusack, N. J. (1993) P₂ receptor: subclassification and structure-activity relationships. Drug Dev. Res. 28: 244–252.

Cusack, N. J. and Hourani, S. M. O. (1982) Competitive inhibition by adenosine 5'-triphosphate of the actions on human platelets of 2-chloroadenosine 5'-diphosphate, 2-azido-adenosine 5'-diphosphate and 2-methylthioadenosine 5'-diphosphate. Br. J. Pharmac. 77: 329–333.

Cusack, N. J. and Hourani, S. M. O. (1990) Structure-activity relationships for adenine nucleotide receptors on mast cells, human platelets and smooth muscle. In: Purines in Cellular Signalling: Targets for New Drugs, pp. 254–259, Jacobson, K. A., Daly, J. W. and Manganiello, V. (eds) Springer, New York.

Cusack, N. J., Hickman, M. E. and Born, G. V. R. (1979) Effects of D- and L-enantiomers of adenosine, AMP and ADP and their 2-chloro and 2-azido-analogues on human platelets. Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B. 206: 139–144.

Cusack, N. J., Hourani, S. M. O., Loizou, G. D. and Welford, L. A. (1987) Pharmacological effects of isopolar phosphonate analogues of ATP on P₂-purinoceptors in guinea-pig taenia coli and urinary bladder. Br. J. Pharmac. 90: 791–795.

Daly, J. W. (1982) Adenosine receptors: targets for future drugs. J. med. Chem. 25: 197–207.

Daval, J.-L., Nehlig, A. and Nicolas, F. (1991) Physiological and pharmacological properties of adenosine: therapeutic implications. Life Sci. 49: 1435–1453.

Davidson, J. S., Wakefield, I. K., Sohnius, U., Van der Merwe, P. A. and Millar, R. P. (1990) A novel extracellular nucleotide receptor coupled to phosphoinositidase-C in pituitary cells. Endocrinology 126: 80–87.

Drury, A. N. and Szent-Györgyi, A. (1929) The physiological activity of adenine compounds with special reference to their action upon the mammalian heart. J. Physiol. (Lond.) 68: 213–237.

Dubyak, G., Moataz, R. and Moilard, P. (1993) Characterization of Ca^{2+} signals generated by extracellular nucleotides in supporting cells of the Organ of Corti. Cell Calcium 14: 245–254.

Eccles, J. C. (1964) The Physiology of Synapses. Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

Edwards, F. A., Alasdair, J. G. and Colquhoun, D. (1992) ATP receptor-mediated synaptic currents in the central nervous system. Nature 359: 144–146.

Elferink, J. G. R. de Koster, B. M., Boonen, G. J. J. C. and de Priester, W. (1992) Inhibition of neutrophil chemotaxis by purinoceptor agonists. Arch. int. Pharmacodyn. 317: 93–106.

Fieber, L. A. and Adams, D. J. (1991) Adenosine triphosphate-evoked currents in cultured neurones dissociated from rat parasympathetic cardiac ganglia. J. Physiol. (Lond.) 434: 239–256.

Fine, J., Cole, P. and Davidson, J. S. (1989) Extracellular nucleotides stimulate receptor calcium mobilization and inositol phosphate production in human fibroblasts. Biochem. J. 263: 371–376.

Fink, J. S., Weaver, D. R., Rivkees, S. A., Peterfreund, R. A., Pollack, A. E., Adler, E. M. and Reppert, S. M. (1992) Molecular cloning of the rat A₂ adenosine receptor: selective co-expression with D₂ dopamine receptors in rat striatum. Brain Res. molec. Brain Res. 14: 186–195.

Fischer, B., Boyer, J. L., Hoyle, C. H. V., Ziganshin, A. U., Brizzolara, A. L., Knight, G. E., Zimmet, J., Burnstock, G., Kendall-Harden, T. and Jacobson, K. A. (1993) Identification of potent P₂y purinoceptor agonists: structure-activity relationships for 2-thioether derivatives of adenosine-5'-triphosphate. J. med. Chem. 36: 3937–3946.

Flodgaard, H. and Klenow, H. (1982) Abundant amounts of diadenosine 5',5'''-p¹,p⁴-tetraphosphate are present and releasable, but metabolically inactive in human platelets. Biochem. J. 208: 737–742.

Foresta, C., Rossato, M. and Di Virgilio, F. (1992) Extracellular ATP is a trigger for the acrosome reaction in human spermatozoa. J. biol. Chem. 267: 19443–19447.

Fournier, F., Honoré, E., Collin, T. and Guilbault, P. (1990) Ins(1,4,5)IP3 formation and fluctuating chloride current response induced by external ATP in Xenopus oocytes injected with embryonic guinea-pig brain mRNA. FEBS Lett. 277: 205–208.

Fredholm, B. B., Abbracchio, M. P., Burnstock, G., Daly, J. W., Harden, T. K., Jacobson, K. A. and Williams, M. (1994) Nomenclature and classification of purinoceptors: a report from the IUPHAR subcommittee. Pharmac. Rev. 46: 143–156.

Frelin, C., Breittmayer, J. P. and Vigne, P. (1993) ADP induces inositol phosphate-independent intracellular Ca^{2+} mobilization in brain capillary endothelial cells. J. biol. Chem. 12: 8787–8792.

Gil-Rodrigo, C. E., Galdiz, B., Gandarias, J. M., Gomez, R. and Ainz, L. F. (1990) Characterization of the effects of adenosine, adenosine 5'-triphosphate and related purines on acid secretion in isolated rabbit gastric glands. Pharmac. Res. 2: 103–113.

Gillespie, J. H. (1933) The biological significance of the linkages in adenosine triphosphoric acid. J. Physiol. (Lond.) 80: 345–349.

Gilman, A. (1987) G-proteins: transducers of receptor-generated signals. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 56: 615–649.

Godecke, S. and Schrader, J. (1994) Cloning and expression analysis of the rat ATP receptor. Drug Dev. Res. 31: 273.

Goldman, S. J., Gordon, E. L. and Slakey, L. L. (1986) Hydrolysis of diadenosine 5',5'''-p¹,p⁴-triphosphate (Ap₃A) by porcine aortic endothelial cells. Circ. Res. 59: 362–366.

Gordon, J. L. (1986) Extracellular ATP: effects, sources and fate. Biochem. J. 233: 309–319.

Green, H. N. and Stoner, H. B. (1950) Biological Actions of the Adenine Nucleotides. Lewis, London.

Griese, M., Gobran, L. J. and Rooney, S. A. (1993) Signal-transduction mechanisms of ATP-stimulated phosphatidylcholine secretion in rat type II pneumocytes: interactions between ATP and other surfactant secretagogues. Biochim. Biophys. Acta 1167: 85–93.

Haussinger, D., Stehle, T., Gerok, W., Tran-Thi, T.-A. and Decker, K. (1987) Hepatocyte heterogeneity in response to extracellular ATP. Eur. J. Biochem. 169: 645–650.

Hickman, S. E., Semrad, C. E., Field, M. and Silverstein, S. C. (1993) Expression of macrophage ATP and UTP receptors. FASEB J. 7: A712.

Hildebrandt, R. H., Martin, M., Zimmerman, J. K. and Pivorun, E. B. (1991) Identification of a unique membrane receptor for adenosine 5',5'''-P¹,P⁴-tetraphosphate. J. biol. Chem. 266: 6915–6918.

Hillaire-Buys, D., Gross, R., Chapal, J., Ribes, G. and Loubatieres-Mariani, M. M. (1992) P₂y purinoceptor responses of β cells and vascular bed are preserved in diabetic rat pancreas. Br. J. Pharmac. 106: 610–615.

Hillaire-Buys, D., Bertrand, G., Chapal, J., Puech, R., Ribes, G. and Loubatieres-Mariani, M. M. (1993) Stimulation of insulin secretion and improvement of glucose tolerance in rat and dog by the P₂y-purinoceptor agonist, adenosine-5'-O-(2-thiodiphosphate). Br. J. Pharmac. 109: 183–187.

Hirasawa, H., Soeda, K., Ohtake, Y., Oda, S., Kobayashi, S., Odaka, M. and Sato, H. (1985) Effects of ATP–MgCl₂ and ATP–Na₂ administration on renal function and cellular metabolism following renal ischemia. Circ. Shock 16: 337–346.

Holton, F. A. and Holton, P. (1954) The capillary dilator substances in dry powders of spinal roots: a possible role of ATP in chemical transmission from nerve endings. J. Physiol. (Lond.) 126: 124–140.

Holton, P. (1959) The liberation of adenosine triphosphate on antidromic stimulation of sensory nerves. J. Physiol. (Lond.) 145: 494–504.

Honoré, E., Fournier, F., Collin, T., Nargeot, J. and Guilbault, P. (1991) Functional expression of P₂y purinoceptor in Xenopus oocyte injected with brain mRNA. Pflügers Arch. 418: 447–452.

Hourani, S. M. O., Welford, L. A., Loizou, G. D. and Cusack, N. J. (1988) Adenosine 5'-(2-fluorodiphosphate) is a selective agonist at P₂-purinoceptors mediating relaxation of smooth muscle. Eur. J. Pharmac. 147: 131–136.

Hourani, S. M. O., Johnson, C. R. and Bailey S. J. (1993) Desensitization of the P₂-purinoceptors on the rat colon muscularis mucosae. Br. J. Pharmac. 110: 501–505.

Houston, D. A., Burnstock, G. and Vanhoutte, P. M. (1987) Different P₁-purinergic receptor subtypes of endothelium and smooth muscle in canine blood vessels. J. Pharmac. Exp. Ther. 241: 501–506.

Hoyle, C. H. V. (1990) Pharmacological activity of adenine dinucleotides in the periphery: possible receptor classes and transmitter function. Gen. Pharmac. 21: 827–831.

Hoyle, C. H. V. and Burnstock, G. (1991) ATP receptors and their physiological roles. In: Adenosine in the Nervous System, pp. 43–76, Stone T. W. (ed.) Academic Press Ltd, London.

Hoyle, C. H. V., Chapple, C. and Burnstock, G. (1989) Isolated human bladder: evidence for an adenine dinucleotide acting on P₂x-purinoceptors and for purinergic transmission. Eur. J. Pharmac. 174: 115–118.

Hoyle, C. H., Knight, C. E. and Burnstock, G. (1990) Suramin antagonises responses to P₂-purinoceptor agonists and purinergic nerve stimulation in the guinea-pig urinary bladder and taenia coli. Br. J. Pharmac. 99: 617–621.

Illes, P. and Norenberg, W. (1993) Neuronal ATP receptors and their mechanism of action. Trends Pharm. Sci. 14: 50–54.

Inoue, K. and Nakazawa, K. (1992) ATP-receptor operated Ca^{2+} influx and catecholamine release from neuronal cells. News Physiol. Sci. 7: 56–58.

Jacobson, K. A. (1990) Adenosine (P1) and ATP (P2)-purinoceptors. In: Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry: The Rational Design, Mechanistic Study and Therapeutic Application of Chemical Compounds, Vol. 3, Membranes and Receptors, pp. 601–642, Emmet, J. C. (ed.) Pergamon Press, Oxford.

Jacobson, K. A., van Galen, P. J. M. and Williams, M. (1992) Adenosine receptors: pharmacology, structure-activity relationships, and therapeutic potential. J. med. Chem. 35: 407–422.

Kasakov, L. and Burnstock, G. (1983) The use of the slowly degradable analog, α,β-methyleneATP to produce desensitisation of the P₂-purinoceptor: effect on non-adrenergic, non-cholinergic responses of the guinea-pig urinary bladder. Eur. J. Pharmac. 86: 291–294.

Kasur8riss, C. H. C., Salm, A. K. and McCarthy, K. (1992) Stimulation of the P_{2Y} purinergic receptor on type I astroglia results in inositol phosphate formation and calcium mobilization. J. Neurochem. 58: 1277–1284.

Keppens, S. (1993) The complex interaction of ATP and UTP with isolated hepatocytes. How many receptors? Gen. Pharmac. 24: 283–289.

Keppens, S., Vandekerckhove, A. and De Wulf, H. (1992) Extracellular ATP and UTP exert similar effects on rat isolated hepatocytes. Br. J. Pharmac. 105: 475–479.

Kerr, D. I. B. and Krantis, A. (1979) A new class of ATP antagonist. Proc. Australian Physiol. Pharmac. Soc. 10: 156P.

Kim, K. C., Zheng, Q.-X. and Van Seuningen, I. (1993) Involvement of a signal transduction mechanism in ATP-induced mucin release from cultured airway goblet cells. Am. J. Respir. Cell. molec. Biol. 8: 121–125.

Kishi, K. I., Hisayama, T. and Takayama, I. (1992) Comparison of contractile mechanisms by carbachol and ATP in detrusor strips of rabbit urinary bladder. Jpn. J. Pharmac. 58: 219–229.

Kristhal, O. A., Marchenko, S. M. and Pidoplichko, V. I. (1983) Receptor for ATP in the membrane of mammalian sensory neurones. Neurosci. Lett. 35: 41–45.

Kumagai, H., Sacktor, B. and Filburn, C. R. (1991) Purinergic regulation of cytosolic calcium and phosphoinositide metabolism in rat osteoblast-like osteosarcoma cells. J. Bone Min. Res. 6: 697–701.

Lachmann, B. and Gommers, D. (1993) Is it rational to treat pneumonia with exogenous surfactant? Eur. Respir. J. 6: 1427–1428.

Lambrecht, G., Friebe, T., Grimm, U., Windscheif, U., Bungardt, E., Hildebrandt, C., Baumert, H. G., Spatz-Kumbel, G. and Mutschler, E. (1992) PPADS, a novel functionally selective antagonist of P_2 purinoceptor-mediated responses. Eur. J. Pharmac. 217: 217–219.

Langosch, J. M., Gebicke-Haerter, P. J., Norenberg, W. and Illes, P. (1994) Two classes of P2Y-purinoceptors mediate a dual effect of ATP in rat microglial cells. Drug. Dev. Res. 31: 280.

Lazarowski, E. R. and Harden, T. K. (1994) Identification of a uridini nucleotide-selective G-protein-linked receptor that activates phospholipase C. J. biol. Chem. 269: 11830–1836.

Lazarowski, E., Mason, S., Parr, E. and Boucher, R. (1994) Functional expression of a human P_{2U}purinergic receptor in 1321N1 cells. Drug. Dev. Res. 31: 289.

Leff, J. P. Humphries, R. G., Crack, B. E., Pollard, C. E. and McKechnie, K. (1994) New ATP analogues: pharmacological tools and potential drugs. Drug. Dev. Res. 31: 290.

Leong, W. S., Russel, R. G. G. and Caswell, A. M. (1993) Induction of enhanced responsiveness of human articular chondrocytes to extracellular ATP by tumour necrosis factor-α. Clin. Sci. 16: 569–575.

Li, G. Milani, D., Dunnel, M. J., Pralong, W.-F., Theler, J.-M., Petersen, O. H. and Wollheim, C. B. (1991) Extracellular ATP causes Ca²⁺-dependent and -independent insulin secretion in RINm5F cells. J. biol. Chem. 266: 3449–3457.

Libert, F., Parmentier, M., Lefort, A., Dinsart, C., Van Sande, J., Maenhaut, C., Simons, M.-J., Dumont, J. E. and Vassart, G. (1989) Selective amplification and cloning of four new members of the G protein-coupled receptor family. Science 244: 569–572.

Libert, F., Schiffmann, S. N., Lefort A., Parmentier, M., Gerard, C., Dumont, J. E., Vanderhaeghen, J. J. and Vassart, G. (1991) The orphan receptor cDNA RDC7 encodes an A_1 adenosine receptor. EMBO J. 10: 1677–1682.

Linden, J., Tucker, A. L. and Lynch, K. R. (1991) Molecular cloning of adenosine A_1 and A_2 receptors. Trends Pharmac. Sci. 12: 326–328.

Linden, J., Jacobson, M. A., Hutchins, C. and Williams, M. (1994) Adenosine receptors. In: Handbook of Receptors and Channels, Vol. 1, G-Protein-Coupled Receptors, pp. 29–44, Peroutka, S. J.(ed.) CRC Press, Boca Raton.

Londos, C., Cooper, D. M. F. and Woolf, J. (1980) Subclasses of external adenosine receptors. Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 77: 2551–2554.

Lustig, K. D. Shiau, A. K., Brake, A. J. and Julius, D. (1993) Expression cloning of an ATP receptor from mouse neuroblastoma cells. Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 90: 5113–5117.

Luthje, J. and Ogilvie, A. (1983) Presence of diadenosine 5′-5′′′-p1-p4-triphosphate (Ap₄A) in human platelets. Biochem. biophys. Res. Commun. 115: 253–260.

Maenhaut, C., van Sande, J., Libert, F., Abramowicz, M., Parmentier, M., Vanderhaegen, J. J., Dumont, J. E., Vassart, G. and Schiffmann, S. (1990) RDC8 codes for an adenosine A_2 receptor with physiological constitutive activity. Biochem. biophys. Res. Commun. 173: 1169–1178.

Maguire, M. H. and Satchell, D. G. (1979) The contribution of adenosine to the inhibitory actions of adenine nucleotides on the guinea-pig taenia coli: studies with phosphate modified adenine nucleotide analogs and dipyridamole. J. Pharmac. exp. Ther. 211: 626–631.

Mahan, L. C., McVittie, L. D., Smyk-Randall, E. M., Nakata, H., Monsma, F. J., Jr, Gerfen, C. R. and Sibley, D. R. (1991) Cloning and expression of an A_1 adenosine receptor from rat brain. Molec. Pharmac. 40: 1–7.

Maanzni, S., Hoyle, C. H. V. and Burnstock, G. (1986) An electrophysiological analysis of the effect of reactive blue 2, a putative P2-purinoceptor antagonist, on inhibitory junction potentials of rat caecum. Eur. J. Pharmac. 127: 197–204.

Martin, G. N., Thom, S. A. M. and Sever, P. S. (1991) The effects of adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and related purines on human isolated subcutaneous and omental resistance arteries. Br. J. Pharmac. 102: 645–650.

Martin, W. Cusack, N. J., Carleton, J. S. and Gordon, J. L. (1985) Specificity of P_2-purinoceptor that mediates endothelium-dependent relaxation of the pig aorta. Eur. J. Pharmac. 108: 295–299.

Mason, S. J., Paradiso, A. M. and Boucher, R. C. (1991) Regulation of transepithelial ion transport and intracellular calcium by extracellular ATP in human normal and cystic fibrosis airway epithelium. Br. J. Pharmac. 103: 1649–1656.

McCormack, D. G., Crawley, D. E. and Evans, T. W. (1993) New perspectives in the pulmonary circulation and hypoxic pulmonary vasoconstriction. Pulm. Pharmac. 6: 97–108.

Meyerhof, W., Muller-Brechlin, R. and Richter, D. (1991) Molecular cloning of a novel putative G-protein coupled receptor expressed during rat spermiogenesis. FEBS Lett. 284: 155–160.

Murgia, M., Pizzo, P., Zanovello, P., Zambon, A. and Di Virgilio, F. (1992) In vitro cytotoxic effects of extracellular ATP. ATLA 20: 66–70.

Murgia, M., Hanau, S., Pizzo, P., Rippa, M. and Di Virgilio, F. (1993) Oxidized ATP—An irreversible inhibitor of the macrophage purinergic P_2 receptor. J. biol. Chem. 11: 8199–8203.

Murphy, P. M. and Tiffany, H. L. (1990) Characterization of phagocyte P_3 nucleotide receptors expressed in Xenopus oocytes. J. biol. Chem. 265: 11615–11621.

Murrin, R. J. A. and Boarder, M. R. (1992) Neuronal 'nucleotide' receptor linked to phospholipase C and phospholipase D? Stimulation of PC12 cells by ATP analogues and UTP. Molec. Pharmac. 41: 561–568.

Nakagawa, T., Akaike, N., Kimitsuki, T., Komune, S. and Arima, T. (1990) ATP-induced current in isolated outer hair cells of guinea pig cochlea. J. Neurophysiol. 5: 1068–1074.

Noone, P. G. and Knowles, M. R. (1993) Trends in therapy of abnormal airway epithelial ion and liquid transport. Monaldi Arch. Chest. Dis. 48: 140–143.

O'Connor, S. E., Wood, B. E. and Leff, P. (1990) Characterisation of P_3-receptors in rabbit isolated ear artery. Br. J. Pharmac. 101: 640–644.

Ogilvie, A. Luthje, J., Pohl, U. and Busse, R. (1989) Identification and partial characterization of an adenosine (5′)tetraphospho(5′) adenosine hydrolase on intact bovine aortic endothelial cells. Biochem. J. 259: 97–103.

Okajima, F., Sato, K. and Kondo, Y. (1989) P_2-purinergic agonists activate phospholipase C in a guanine nucleotide- and Ca²⁺-dependent manner in FRTL-5 thyroid cell membranes. FEBS Lett. 253: 132–136.

Palea, S. Aribani, M., Ostardo, E., Trisi, D. G. and Pietra, C. (1993) Evidence for purinergic neurotransmission in human urinary bladder affected by interstitial cystitis. J. Urol. 150: 2007–2012.

Parr, C. E., Sullivan, D. M., Paradiso, A. M., Lazarowski, E. R., Burch, L. H., Olsen, J. C., Erb, L., Weisman, G. A., Boucher, R. C. and Turner, J. T. (1994) Cloning and expression of a human P2U nucleotide receptor, a target for cystic fibrosis pharmacotherapy. Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 91: 3275–3279.

Pavenstadt, H., Lindemann, V., Lindemann, S., Kunzelmann, K., Spath, M. and Greger, R. (1991) Effect of extracellular ATP on membrane potential and hormone release in rat mesenteric arterial bed. Circ. Res. 69: 1583–1590.

Pfeilschifter, J. (1990) Comparison of extracellular ATP and UTP signalling in rat renal mesangial cells—No indications for the involvement of separate purino- and pyrimidino-ceptors. Biochem. J. 272: 469–472.

Pintor, J. and Miras-Portugal, M. T. (1993) Diadenosine polyphosphates (Ap_xA) as new neurotransmitters. Drug. Dev. Res. 28: 259–262.

Pintor, J., Torres, M., Castro, E. and Miras-Portugal, M. T. (1991a) Characterization of diadenosine tetraphosphate (Ap₄A) binding sites in cultured chromaffin cells: evidence for a P_3 site. Br. J. Pharmac. 103: 1980–1984.

Pintor, J., Torres, M. and Miras-Portugal, M. T. (1991b) Carbachol induced release of diadenosine polyphosphates—Ap₄A and Ap₅A—From perfused bovine adrenal medulla and isolated chromaffin cells. Life Sci. 48: 2317–2324.

Pintor, J., Diaz-Rey, M. A. and Miras-Portugal, M. T. (1993) Ap₄A and ADP-β-S binding to P_3 purinoceptors present on rat brain synaptic terminals. Br. J. Pharmac. 108: 1094–1099.

Pizzo, P. Murgia, M., Zambon, A., Zanovello, P., Bronte, V., Pietrobon, D. and Di Virgilio, F. (1992) Role of P_2 purinergic receptors in ATP-mediated killing of tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-sensitive and TNF-resistant L929 fibroblasts. J. Immun. 109: 3372–3378.

Purkiss, J. R., Wilkinson, G. F. and Boarder, M. R. (1993) Evidence for a nucleotide receptor on adrenal medullary endothelial cells linked to phospholipase C and phospholipase D. Br. J. Pharmac. 108: 1031–1037.

Ralevic, V. and Burnstock, G. (1991) Effects of purines and pyrimidines on the rat mesenteric arterial bed. Circ. Res. 69: 1583–1590.

Rapaport, E. (1993) Anticancer activities of adenine nucleotides in tumor bearing hosts. Drug. Dev. Res. 28: 428–431.

Rapaport, E. and Zamecnik, P. C. (1976) Presence of diadenosine 5′-5′′′-P1,P4-tetraphosphate (AP4A) in mammalian cells in levels varying widely with proliferative activity of the tissue: a possible positive pleiotypic activator. Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 73: 3984–3988.

Reed, J. K., de Souza, L., Raha, S. and Moore, H. (1994) ATP and UTP activate distinct signalling pathways in PC12 cells. Drug. Dev. Res. 31: 312.

Reimer, W. J. and Dixon, S. J. (1992) Extracellular nucleotides elevate [Ca²⁺]i in rat osteoblastic cells by interaction with two receptor subtypes. Am. J. Physiol. 263 (Cell Physiol. 32): C1040–C1048.

Rubino, A. and Burnstock, G. (1994) A new purinergic receptor may contribute to the control of pulmonary circulation of the rat. Drug. Dev. Res. 31: 315.

Russell, S. N., Homer, M. A., Westfall, D. P., Buxton, I. L. O. and Horowitz, B. (1993) Characterization and functional expression of the ATP receptor in vas deferens smooth muscle. Biophys. J. 64: A84.

Saiag, B., Milon, D., Allain, H., Rault, B. and Van Den Driessche, J. (1990) Constriction of the smooth muscle of rat tail and femoral arteries and dog saphenous vein is induced by uridine triphosphate via P2x purinoceptors, and by adenosine triphosphate via P2x purinoceptors. *Blood Vessels* 27: 352–364.

Saiag, B., Milon, D., Shacoori, V., Allain, H., Rault, B. and Vandenor, J. (1992) Newly evidenced pyrimidinoceptors and the P2x purinoceptors are present on the vascular smooth-muscle and respectively mediate the UTP-induced and ATP-induced contractions of the dog maxillary internal vein. *Res. Commun. CP.* 76: 89–94.

Salter, M. W. and Hicks, J. L. (1994) ATP-evoked increases in intracellular calcium in neurones and glia from the dorsal spinal cord. *J. Neurosci.* 14: 1563–1575.

Salvatore, C. A., Luneau, C. J., Johnson, R. G. and Jacobson, M. A. (1992) Molecular cloning and characterization of human A1 and A3 adenosine receptors. *Int. J. Purine Pyrim. Res.* 3: 82.

Satchell, D. G. and Maguire M. H. (1975) Inhibitory effects of adenine nucleotide analogs on the isolated guinea-pig taenia coli. *J. Pharmac. exp. Ther.* 195: 540–548.

Scholz, C., Cuthbertson, K. S. R., Walsh, C. A., Mayne, C., Cobbold, P., Von Zur Muhlen, A., Hesch, R.-D. and Gallagher, J. A. (1992) Evidence for P2-purinoceptors on human osteoblast-like cells. *J. Bone Min. Res.* 5: 485–491.

Schulze-Lohoff, E., Zanner, S., Ogilvie, A. and Sterzel, R. B. (1992) Extracellular ATP stimulates proliferation of cultured mesangial cells via P2-purinergic receptors. *Am. J. Physiol.* 263: F374–F383.

Shen, K.-Z. and North, R. A. (1993) Excitation of rat locus coeruleus neurons by adenosine 5'-triphosphate: ionic mechanism and receptor characterization. *J. Neurosci.* 13: 894–899.

Siegel, N. J., Avison, M. J., Reilly, H. F., Alger, J. R. and Shulman, R. G. (1983) Enhanced recovery of renal ATP with postischemic infusion of ATP-MgCl2 determined by 31P-NMR. *Am. J. Physiol.* 245 (*Renal Fluid Electrolyte Physiol.* 14): F530–F534.

Silinsky, E. M. (1989) Adenosine derivatives and neuronal function. *The Neurosciences* 1: 155–165.

Stehle, J. H., Rivkees, S. A., Lee, J. J., Weaver, D. R., Deeds, J. D. and Reppert, S. M. (1992) Molecular cloning and expression of the cDNA for a novel A2-adenosine receptor subtype. *Molec. Endocrin.* 6: 384–393.

Stone, T. (1992) Therapeutic potential of adenosine. *Scrip Magazine* July/August: 41–43.

Stone, T. W. and Perkins, M. N. (1981) Adenine dinucleotide effect on rat cortical neurones. *Brain Res.* 229: 241–245.

Stutts, M. J., Chinet, T. C., Mason, S. J., Fullton, J. M., Clarke, L. L. and Boucher, R. C. (1992) Regulation of Cl− channels in normal and cystic fibrosis airway epithelial cells by extracellular ATP. *Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 89: 1621–1625.

Sumpio, B. E., Chaudry, I. H. and Baue, A. E. (1985) Reduction of the drug induced nephrotoxicity by ATP-MgCl2. *J. Surg. Res.* 38: 429–437.

Tawada, Y., Furukawa, K.-I. and Shigekawa, M. (1987) ATP-induced calcium transient in cultured rat aortic smooth muscle cells. *J. Biochem.* 102: 1499–1509.

Theobald, R. J., Jr (1992) Subclasses of purinoceptors in feline bladder. *Eur. J. Pharmac.* 229: 125–130.

Thomas, S. A., Zawisa, M. J., Lin, X. and Hume, R. I. (1991) A receptor that is highly specific for extracellular ATP in developing chick skeletal muscle *in vitro. Br. J. Pharmac.* 103: 1963–1969.

Tschopl, M., Harms, L., Norenberg, W. and Illes, P. (1992) Excitatory effects of adenosine 5'-triphosphate on rat locus coeruleus neurones. *Eur. J. Pharmac.* 213: 71–77.

Ueno, S., Harata, N., Inoue, K. and Akaike, N. (1992) ATP-gated current in dissociated rat nucleus solitarii neurons. *J. Neurophysiol.* 68: 778–786.

van Calker, D. Muller, M. and Hamprecht, B. (1979) Adenosine regulates via two different types of receptor, the accumulation of cyclic AMP in cultured brain cells. *J. Neurosci.* 33: 999–1005.

Vander Kooy, D., Dubyak, G. R., Moore, R. M. and Moore, J. J. (1989) Adenosine triphosphate activates the phospholipase-C cascade system in human amnion cells without increasing prostaglandin production. *Endocrinology* 124: 2005–2012.

von Kugelgen, I. and Starke, K. (1990) Evidence for two separate vasoconstriction-mediating nucleotide receptors, both distinct from the P2x-receptor, in rabbit basilar artery: a receptor for pyrimidine nucleotides and a receptor for purine nucleotides. *Naunyn-Schmiedeberg's Arch. Pharmac.* 341: 538–546.

von Kugelgen, I., Haussinger, D. and Starke, K. (1987) Evidence for a vasoconstriction-mediating receptor for UTP, distinct from the P2 purinoceptor, in rabbit ear artery. *Naunyn-Schmiedeberg's Arch. Pharmac.* 336: 556–560.

von Kugelgen, I., Bultmann, R. and Starke, K. (1990) Interaction of adenine nucleotides, UTP and suramin in mouse vas deferens: suramin-sensitive and suramin-insensitive components in the contractile effect of ATP. *Naunyn-Schmiedeberg's Arch. Pharmac.* 342: 198–205.

von Kugelgen, I., Spath, L. and Starke, K. (1994) Presynaptic P2-purinoceptors inhibiting the release of noradrenaline in rat brain cortex slices. *Drug Dev. Res.* 31: 332.

Walker, B. A. M., Hagenlocker, B. E., Douglas, V. K., Tarapchak, S. J. and Ward, P. A. (1991) Nucleotide responses of human neutrophils. *Lab. Invest.* 64: 105–112.

Webb, T. E., Simon, J., Krishek, B. J., Bateson, A. N., Smart, T. G., King, B. F., Burnstock, G. and Barnard, E. A. (1993) Cloning and functional expression of a brain G-protein-coupled ATP receptor. *FEBS Lett.* 324: 219–225.

Westfall, D. P., Shinozuka, K., Forsyth, K. N. and Bjur, R. A. (1990) Presynaptic purine receptors. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 604: 130–135.

Wiklund, N. P. and Gustafsson, L. E. (1988) Indications for P2-purinoceptors subtypes in guinea pig smooth muscle. *Eur. J. Pharmac.* 148: 361–370.

Williams, M. (1987) Purine receptors in mammalian tissues: pharmacology and functional significance. *Ann. Rev. Pharmac. Toxicol.* 27: 315–345.

Williams, M. (1993) Purinergic drugs: opportunities in the 1990s. *Drug Dev. Res.* 28: 438–444.

Williams, M. (1994) Purinoceptor nomenclature: challenges for the future. In: *Adenosine and Adenine Nucleotides: From Molecular Biology to Integrative Physiology*, Belardinelli L. and Pelleg A. (eds) Kluwer, Norwell, MA: in press.

Xing, M., Thevenod, F. and Mattera, R. (1992) Dual regulation of arachidonic acid release by P2 purinergic receptors in dibutyryl cyclic AMP-differentiated HL60 cells. *J. biol. Chem.* 267: 6602–6610.

Yamada, M., Hamamori, Y., Akita, H. and Yokoyama, M. (1992) P2-purinoceptor activation stimulates phosphoinositide hydrolysis and inhibits accumulation of cAMP in cultured ventricular myocytes. *Circ. Res.* 70: 477–485.

Yu, H. and Ferrier, J. (1993) ATP induces an intracellular calcium pulse in osteoclasts. *Biochem. biophys. Res. Commun.* 191: 357–363.

Zamecnik, P. C., Byung, K., Gao, M. J., Taylor, G. and Blackburn, M. (1992) Analogues of diadenosine 5',5'''-p1,p4-tetraphosphate (Ap4A) as potential anti-platelet-aggregation agents. *Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 89: 2370–2373.

Zhou, F. Q.-Y., Olah M. E., Li, C., Johnson, R. A., Stiles, G. L. and Civelli, O. (1992) Molecular cloning and characterization of a novel adenosine receptor: the A3 adenosine receptor. *Proc. natn. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* 89: 7432–7436.

Ziganshin, A. U., Hoyle, C. H. V., Bo, X., Lambrecht, G., Mutschler, E., Baumert, H. G. and Burnstock, G. (1993) PPADS selectively antagonizes P2x-purinoceptor-mediated responses in the rabbit urinary bladder. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 110: 1491–1495.

Ziganshin, A. U., Hoyle, C. H. V. and Burnstock, G. (1994a) Ectoenzymes and metabolism of extracellular ATP. *Drug Dev. Res.* 32: 134–146.

Ziganshin, A. U., Hoyle, C. H. V., Lambrecht, G., Baumert, H. G., Mutschler, E. and Burnstock, G. (1994b) Selective antagonism by PPADS at P2x-purinoceptors in rabbit isolated blood vessels. *Br. J. Pharmac.* 111: 923–929.

Zimmet, J., Jarlebark, L., van Galen, P. J. M., Jacobson, K. A. and Heilbronn, E. (1993) Synthesis and biological activity of novel 2-thio derivatives of ATP. *Nucleosides Nucleotides* 12: 1–20.